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THURSDAY, MAY 7TH, 2015

IN BUSINESS UPDATE Page 18



MAKING A DIFFERENCE

LOCAL
NEWSPAPER
WEEK
11-17 MAY

PAGE 27 - FOCUS ON....
Vale Business Park
LLANDOW, NEAR COWBRIDGE

Drama as lifeboat plucks a kayaker from sea

P O R T H C A W L Ogmore-by-Sea last Friday afternoon. First on the scene was the Atlantic 85 Lifeboat, Rose of the Shires, with helmsman Joseph Missen reported difficulty off in command.

Due to the conditions and the amount of time the kayaker had been in the water, the helmsman asked for further assistance from other lifeboats and a search and rescue helicopter.

A spokesman said that Porthcawl's D Class lifeboat was launched immediately, under the command of volunteer helmsman Paul Eastment, and raced to Ogmore by Sea to assist in the search.

They were informed that a member of the public could see a person in the water off Hardy's Bay, just half a mile east of Ogmore-by-Sea.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)

IT'S REUNION NUMBER 49 FOR BRIDGEND HOSPITAL NURSES!



Report and Photograph by KEITH E MORGAN

Nurses at the Sandville who had their first reunion in 1967 – and are still meeting up!

VOTERS GO TO THE POLLS IN BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH

VOTERS in Bridgend county borough were off to the polls today (Thursday) to vote in the Bridgend and Ogmore constituencies.

Ogmore was singled out in a BBC Wales report earlier this week, labelled "the safest Labour seat in Wales" where Huw Irranca-Davies will be defending a majority of more than 13,000.

In Bridgend, Labour's Madeleine Moon is defending a much smaller majority (2,263), having polled 13,931 five years ago, ahead of the Conservatives' 11,668.

Polling booths will be open from 7am to 10pm on Thursday.

The 2015 general election has been labelled the most difficult one to call for many years.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 9)

THE 49th anniversary of the League of Nurses, Bridgend General Hospital, was held again this year at the Sandville Self Help Centre, Sandville Court, Ton Kenfig.

When first launched in 1967 by Sister Gwyneth Poacher, the reunions were held in Quarrella Road, Bridgend, but for the last 24 years, the league has met at Sandville.

Next year will see the League of Nurses celebrate the 50th anniversary of these annual get-togethers.

Gwyneth Davies and Diane Woodhouse, then both 17-year-olds, started together as pre-nursing students on ward 3, under Staff Nurse Margaret Flower on the same day, April 6, 1950, in Bridgend General Hospital, Quarrella Road.

Six years later, they were to get married on the same day, June 2, 1956!

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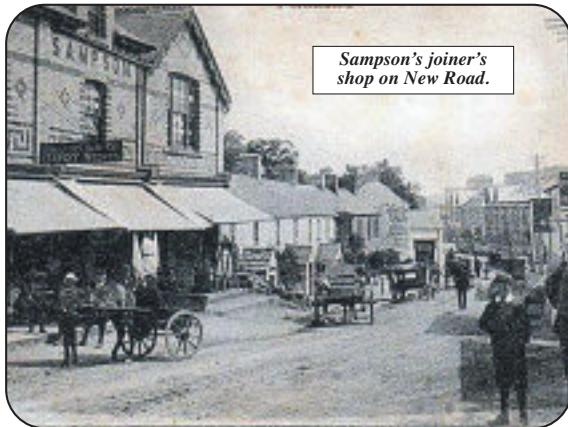
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Porthcawl in World War One

Ceri Joseph of Porthcawl museum looks back at May 1915



DESCRIBED as 'The Greatest of All Crimes'
(Glamorgan Gazette, May 14, 1915) the torpedoing of the *Lusitania* by a German submarine on May 7 resulted in the loss of 1,198 lives, including 128 Americans.

Horror and indignation was felt throughout the British Empire and America, despite the German U-Boat Captain Walter Schweiger insisting that the *Lusitania*'s explosion was disproportionate to the one torpedo that was fired.

The German government further insisted that no crime had been committed, as the ship was carrying explosives. At the time, this was strongly denied.

However, in 2008 munitions found in the hold of the wreck suggest that the ship was carrying war materials, and as such was a legitimate target.

Nevertheless, at the time, the outrage felt did not only fuel the propaganda machine but led indirectly to America entering the war two years later.

Two of the 761 survivors were David Thomas, Lord Rhondda, and his daughter Lady Margaret Haig Thomas. Margaret Haig had been an active suffragist before the war, and with her mother Lady Sybil Thomas, had attended a Women's Suffrage meeting at the National School, Llan Road, Porthcawl, in April 1913.

Lord Rhondda became Minister for Food Control in 1917, during which time he introduced rationing.

It was the sinking of

another ship that had a bigger impact on Porthcawlians. At 1.15am on May 13, 1915, while covering military landings at Morto Bay in the Dardanelles, three torpedoes from the Turkish torpedo boat, the *Muavenet-i-Milliye* commanded by German Lt Commander Firle, struck HMS *Goliath*.

The *Goliath* exploded and sank within minutes.

Among the 570 lives lost, out of 750 on board, were leading cook's mate William Hodgson, stoker David Robert Ockwell and stoker James Pearce.

On receiving the news, 'Horror seized the inhabitants of our town.' (*Porthcawl News 20th May 1915*)

William Hodgson was born in Tenby, on May 18, 1888. Prior to joining the Navy on July 23, 1907 at Devonport, he worked as an indoor porter. He was assigned to the *Goliath* on July 30, 1914.

During his time in the Navy, his family had moved to 12 Railway Terrace, Porthcawl. His father William, born in the Doncaster Union Workhouse in 1864, had developed a successful plumbing and gas fitting business in Porthcawl.

By 1913, the family had moved to 21 George Street, Porthcawl. Leading cook's mate William Hodgson died five days before his 27th birthday.

David Robert Ockwell was born in Nottage, Porthcawl, October 16, 1875. Prior to joining the Navy on January 3, 1898 he worked as a collier in Penrhys, which may have had some influence on his decision to enlist as a stoker for 12 years.

Following the official end of his service on January 1, 1910, he

registered with the Naval Reserve. He married Cecilia (Sissy) Collins in December 1909 and settled down in West Road, Nottage, where their son David Redman Abbot Ockwell was born in July 1911. His father Jacob, who had been a plateplayer for the GWR before running the Nottage Stores (same location as today), died two months before David.

Previously, his sister Jennet had married Charlie Bragg, a well-known Porthcawl butcher. Being attached to the Naval Reserve, David was called up on August 2 and posted to serve on the *Goliath*, August 5, 1914. David was 39 years old.

'Jimmy' Pearce was born on January 7, 1880 in Beach House, William's Place, Porthcawl to Sarah and James Pearce who worked as a pilot at Porthcawl harbour. Jimmy joined the Navy on January 26, 1898 at Devonport and also served as a stoker.

On completion of his service, on November 21, 1908 he registered with the Naval Reserve. He married Annie in 1910 and they moved to White Horn, 4 Railway Terrace, Porthcawl where in 1912 Phyllis was born. Between leaving and then rejoining the Navy, Jimmy worked as a stoker at Langland's Colliery, Pyle.

Being attached to the Naval Reserve, he was called up on August 2. He was posted to serve on the *Goliath* August 5, 1914. Jimmy was 35 years old. All three men are commemorated on the Plymouth Naval Memorial.

On May 15, the sinking of the *Goliath* resulted in Admiral of the Fleet Lord 'Jackie' Fisher resigning as First Sea Lord over his



having soldiers in the town was appreciated when 'a fire of alarming character occurred in the joiner's shop belonging to Mr R Sampson, near the GW Railway Station.'

(Glamorgan Gazette May 21, 1915.)

The Porthcawl Fire Brigade was under the command of Captain TE Deere, JP who unfortunately at the time was serving on the bench in Bridgend.

The 18th Battalion 'Bantams' were called out by bugle, and apart from helping to control the fire, had to fix bayonets to keep the crowd back. Mr Deere arrived within 25 minutes to oversee the situation. Thankfully, no one was injured.

Join me next month to read about Porthcawlans who became prisoners of war.

CERI JOSEPH

- Visit Porthcawl Museum: weekly opening times, Tuesday to Friday 10am - 12pm and 2pm - 4pm; Saturdays 10am - 4pm, Sundays 11am - 3pm.

It was also predicted that due to Italy now joining the Allies, an early peace was expected.

Finally, the benefit of

HIGH TIDE TIMES (UNTIL MAY 14)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary.

For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 - 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time	Ht	Time	Ht
	AM	M	PM	M
07 Thur	09.12	9.4	21.29	9.5
08 Fri	09.49	9.4	22.10	9.2
09 Sat	10.31	9.1	22.57	9.0
10 Sun	11.24	8.7	23.50	8.5
11 Mon			12.21	8.3
12 Tues	00.59	8.3	13.37	8.2
13 Wed	02.16	8.3	14.56	8.3
14 Thur	03.28	8.6	16.06	8.8

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

We abide by the code of practice upheld by the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO). This contains provisions for issues such as accuracy.

If you have a complaint, write to us at the address below, left, or call editorial manager Don John on 01446 774484. All complaints will be fully investigated. If you are not satisfied with the outcome, you may wish to contact IPSO c/o Halton House, 20-23 High Holborn, London EC1N 2JD. Website: www.ipso.co.uk. Tel: 0300 123 2220. E-Mail: complaints@ipso.co.uk. Enquiries: inquiries@ipso.co.uk.

Council is nominated for excellence in deaf services

BRIDGEND County worked closely with Borough Council people who are profoundly deaf, those who have acquired deafness and those with hearing loss.

"We are thrilled to be nominated for Action on Hearing Loss Excellence Wales Award for our commitment to deaf and hard of hearing customers, and we will continue to consult with specific groups to make sure that we are offering accessible services."

An independent judging panel will decide on gold, silver and bronze category winners, which will be announced at the Action on Hearing Loss Cymru Gala dinner on May 15 at the Hilton Hotel in Cardiff.

Richard Williams, the director of Action on Hearing Loss Cymru, said, "We'd like to congratulate all shortlisted entrants, who are recognised for the steps they are taking to be accessible to the 530,000 people in Wales who are confronting deafness, tinnitus and hearing loss."

"We hope that more organisations across Wales will see them as role models."

To find out more or to book tickets to the gala dinner, visit www.actiononhearingloss.org.uk



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LIFEBOAT RESCUE FOR KAYAKERS



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The lifeboats made their way there, and found the kayaker in the water.

"They pulled him into the lifeboat, and it was clear that he was suffering from severe hypothermia, and as the helicopter was in the area, the helicopter winched the kayaker from the lifeboat and took him straight to hospital by helicopter."

"Thanks to the quick thinking and actions of our volunteer RNLI crew members, who all responded promptly to this call from their places of work, school and homes, to crew the

lifeboats meant that this rescue came to a successful conclusion, with the kayaker found, and taken to hospital by helicopter.

"Our RNLI volunteer crew members give up their own time to train twice every week for this type of rescue. We would just like to remind people who use the sea to ensure that they inform a friend or relative that they are going to sea, and let them know what time and where they will be returning to. Also, where practical, try not to go alone, always with a friend."

THE Rotary Club of Maesteg celebrated its 70th charter with a gala dinner at the Masonic Hall, Castle Street, Maesteg, on May 2.

President Viv Gage had a number of top table guests, including district governor Sandra Townsend and her husband Peter, together with presidents of Portcawl, Port Talbot and Bridgend Rotary clubs and Labour candidate Huw Irranca-Davies and his wife Joanna.

Special guest was Dr Elizabeth Jones past international president of Inner Wheel and Morriston Rotary Club was well represented with 12 of their club attending.

The attendance of over 70 guests showed how well thought of the club is in Maesteg and although members total only eight in number, they still continue to raise funds for local and international charities and have recently contributed to a Shelter Box

for the disaster in Nepal.

Many former Rotarians helped with the celebrations and Inner Wheel clubs were well represented, including past district chairmen Menna Davies and Daphne Harries and chair of Maesteg Inner wheel Mai Jones and her husband Ralph.

After the formal part of the evening, entertainment was provided by Dennis Lang comedian/vocalist and everybody agreed the evening was a huge success.

The club would like to thank everyone who came to help celebrate this amazing achievement and as always makes an appeal for anyone, male and female, who feel they could follow the motto 'service above self' and would like to join the club.

Contact Tal Harries on 01656 711078, Viv Gage on 01639 870442 or join us at The Old House Llangynwyd, every second Monday.

TH



Maesteg Rotary celebrates its 70th charter

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Rotary clubs and Labour candidate

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FLORAL DEMO IN PENCOED

THE Pencoed Town and District Twinning

Association is staging a floral demonstration on Wednesday, May 20 in the Pencoed Miners' Welfare Hall, Pencoed, CF35 5PE (doors open at 7pm). Tickets are £5 per person.

Anne Rose will be presenting and has exhibited at the Chelsea Flower Show. She has been very involved with Interflora over many

years, and is a member of NAFAS and the Flower Guild of Lincoln Cathedral.

Anne previously visited Pencoed in 2013 and gave a very high quality demonstration which was very well received by all those who attended.

All the demonstration items will be raffled at the end of the evening.

For tickets, contact Wendy McDonald on 01656 865633 or email: eric.mcdonald@btconnect.com

CAB in Pyle

BRIDGEND County borough's Citizens Advice Bureau is holding one to one sessions at KPC in Pyle to give advice and help in dealing with debt, managing a budget and benefits entitlements.

To book a slot at the sessions, which will run on a Thursday (today), 10am - 12 midday. Call Alison on 01656 749219.

The next session will be today (Thursday) and from then on will run on the first and third Thursday of each month.

Town hall's AGM
ON Wednesday, May 20 at 7pm Maesteg Town Hall is holding its 2015 AGM.

Louise Ralph, business development manager for Maesteg Town Hall said: "We have had a very exciting year; our first programme of events has seen a wide variety of performances with audiences growing steadily. The future for Maesteg Town Hall is bright, with many further developments planned."

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Pasty purchase wins Ed a £5,000 holiday



Ed Parks is told the good news by Peter's pies.

A BRIDGEND pasty fan will be going on the holiday of a lifetime after winning £5,000 Thomson holiday vouchers with Peter's Pies.

Ed Parks, (aged 38), won the prize after buying a Peter's Corned Beef Pasty promotional multi-pack from his local Sainsbury's in The Derwen, Bridgend.

Ed said: "Peter's corned beef pasties are my favourite, anyway, but when I saw the £5,000 Thomson giveaway on the pack, I thought I'd give it a go. I was absolutely over the moon when Peter's told me I had won."

Ed was drawn as the lucky winner after thousands of shoppers

entered a code printed on their promotional Peter's Corned Beef Pasty multi-pack online for the chance to win.

Peter's marketing manager, Claire Conway, said: "In the New Year, lots of us are craving a holiday, so we launched our Thomson giveaway in January to give pastry lovers the chance to win just that."

"Telling Ed the good news was a wonderful moment. We hope he has a fantastic time, wherever he decides to go."

Ed continued: "I'll definitely include my friends and family in the decision-making process as I'd like to go on a group holiday that everyone will enjoy. We might even have more than one holiday!"

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DISABLED KIDS' HELPING HAND FROM THE ABMU

NEW equipment paid for by an ABMU grant is already bringing a smile to the faces of disabled youngsters at a Bridgend centre.

Y Bont, which provides care for disabled children and support for their families, has just taken delivery of special seats and mobility aids, thanks to ABMU's Changing for the Better grant scheme.

A £1,300 donation

from the fund has been used towards the cost of two P Pods, specialist adjustable seating which allow children to sit up independently and two Scoots which give them the chance to ride or crawl along the floor.

Delighted general manager at Y Bont, Marged Griffiths, said: "We were thrilled to have this support. It is already making a huge difference to children's lives enabling them to become more independent and to develop their motor skills – while having fun."

She said the P Pod had allowed one young service user, Jack Vincent, to be able to sit alongside his friends at mealtimes for the very first time.

"I just wish we had

filmed the look of delight on his face."

The Scoots give

"We are committed to improving our population's health, wellbeing and independence and the equipment bought for Y Bont is already doing that for some of our youngest residents."

AM's praise for Bridgend's new cultural centre

SHADOW Welsh Culture Minister Suzy Davies has paid a visit to Bridgend's new cultural centre at Carnegie House.

Suzi, who is a Welsh Conservative Regional AM, was shown around what was the town's old library by Bridgend Mayor Bob Burns who also chairs the new board that runs the centre.

She was shown the new multi-purpose room on the ground floor which is being used for a number of activities including staging plays, putting on comedy nights and a variety of other events.

Upstairs, the building houses Bridgend Town Council and Mrs Davies saw the newly installed council chamber, offices for staff and another function room which is also available to hire.

Coun Burns explained that the town council have now become the owners of the building and are responsible for

all the repairs and maintenance work is underway on the Grade 2 listed facade at present.

Mrs Davies said: "This is a very impressive building right in the heart of Bridgend. I am glad that it has been retained for the use of the community and I congratulate Bridgend Town Council for having the courage to take it on."

"They took a bit of a gamble but it is now paying dividends as the building is in big demand."

"It is a wonderful extra addition to the facilities available for public use within the town."

The centre is also used as a base by Bridgend Arts Ltd which organises a number of cultural activities there.

The AM added: "This is a great example of a community helping itself thanks to the foresight of the town council and the dedication of those willing to give up their time to sit on the board. I wish it every success."



Jack Vincent tries out one of the new P Pods.



Tristan Harrison in the Scoot.

How Pat became inspired by felt!

A well-attended April meeting of Sker WI was held on April 9 in St David's Church Hall, Nottage.

President Nora Williams addressed the meeting, and secretary Cynthia Sidey read the minutes of the last meeting which were approved and signed, together with WI news.

The speaker was Mrs Pat Johnson, whose subject was 'What goes on in my shed'. The intriguing title was only surpassed by the talented lady herself, who after retiring from schoolteaching studied the art of felt-making for three years.

She humorously demonstrated the complex process and history of felt-making.

Samples of silks and raw fleece wool accompanied her talk, with countless lovely garments, hats and scarves in her range on display, and for sale. Each garment is quite unique.

She modelled her hats, some of which were quite comical and her antics brought the house down.

The AM added: "This is a great example of a community helping itself thanks to the foresight of the town council and the dedication of those willing to give up their time to sit on the board. I wish it every success."

Blood Pressure Day helps local residents

First Minister Carwyn Jones having his blood pressure checked by nurse Heather Jenkins.



SATURDAY, April 18, was 'Know Your Blood Pressure' day and Porthcawl Rotarians invited residents and visitors to have their blood pressure measured.

One hundred and seventy three people called into Trinity Church to avail themselves of this free test. Of this number, 41 were advised to see their GP and five were urgent referrals.

Hopefully, the Rotary Club of Porthcawl, in

conjunction with the Stroke Association, has helped raise awareness of how important it is for people to have their blood pressure checked.

High blood pressure is a key risk factor for stroke, which can strike at any age, and is one of the top three causes of death and the single largest cause of disability.

The Rotarians are extremely grateful to all the volunteers who worked throughout the day, especially the health care professionals who gave their time so freely.

Cadet Dylan seeks sponsorship for trip to Hong Kong

A young schoolboy volunteer is looking for sponsors – to help him raise money to attend an international youth event next year.

Dylan Pritchard, 13, a member of the Pencoed-Bridgend Division of St John Cymru-Wales, is collecting funds to take part in the St John International Cadet Championships in Hong Kong next January.

The youngster needs £2,500 to join 11 other St John members from across Wales at the event, where they will compete in first aid competitions against St John youths from across the world.

"Being part of St John Cymru-Wales helps our members learn new skills, boost confidence and get an insight into team-working, which will help them as they move through the world of work," said Sy HKICC.



Dylan Pritchard
Read your GEM online: visit bridgend-today.co.uk

Lelli Kelly

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Construction site dangers highlighted to local school pupils



Safety mascot Ivor Goodsite with pupils at Pil Primary School.

VALLEYS to Coast (V2C) has been working with a local primary school recently to educate children on the dangers of construction sites.

Every year, two or three children are killed and many more are injured while entering and playing on construction sites.

Together with building contractor Wates Living Space, V2C project teams visited Pil Primary School to speak to the children on the dangers of construction tools and machinery, the risk of falling into trenches and holes or being struck by moving vehicles.

Ivor Goodsite, who spoke about keeping safe around construction sites and invited them to create their own 'Ivor Goodsite' facemask, for which prizes were given.

Neil Pryce, the headteacher at Pil Primary commented: "The children really enjoyed the sessions. 'Ivor' was a big hit with the younger children, while the older ones said they learnt a lot about on-site safety. The Wates' staff were very enthusiastic and worked alongside the children to

get the important message across in a fun manner, but always stressing the importance of staying safe at all times."

Debra Thomas of Wates construction said: "Many of the school children had seen the work that we have been doing on Beech Road to our tenanted properties and so really responded to the lessons we were trying to teach them."

B R I D G E N D Association of Voluntary Organisations (BAVO) has commissioned 'Disabled Go' to undertake access review of almost 200 venues across the region.

A spokesman said:

Step out with ramblers on a Big Welsh Walk

PEOPLE in Bridgend are being encouraged to step out and discover the wonders of walking in Wales this May during Ramblers Cymru's Big Welsh Walk.

From nature walks to family-fun coastal wандers, the Big Welsh Walk has something for everyone to enjoy.

During the event Bridgend Ramblers will be offering people free walks/a free short walk.

A spokesman said: "We have a varied programme of walks from gentle strolls to challenging hilltop rambles. See our website www.bridgendramblers.co.uk for details or check the Ramblers' website at www.ramblers.org.uk/BigWelshWalk.

"Whether you're eight or 80, we want as many people as possible to step out for a walk with us during the month of May."

"For more information, call the Ramblers press office on 0207 339 8531 or 07584 848083 (out of hours), email press@ramblers.org.uk, or visit www.ramblers.org.uk. You can also follow Facebook - www.facebook.com/ramblers and Twitter twitter.com/Ramblers_Cymru."



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TABERNACL CONCERT AT CHAPEL



The Tabernacle Music Society.

Big Apple beckons for apprentice Jasmine



A ONCE-in-a-lifetime opportunity to experience what it's like to be a hairdresser in New York awaits a Bridgend apprentice next month.

Jasmine Jones, 18, who works for Splitz haircutters, Maesteg, is

one of three learners selected by ISA Training, the largest independent hair and beauty training provider in Wales, to spend five days in the Big Apple at the end of May.

ISA Training, based in Pencoed, Bridgend, is funding the visit by the apprentices and three members of staff as part of the company's Oyster Project, which is based on the saying 'The world is your oyster'.

Jasmine, who has completed her foundation apprenticeship and is progressing to an apprenticeship, said: "I still can't believe that they picked me. I can't wait to go and meet everyone and learn as much as I can."

"Everything about New York appeals to me, including the lifestyle and all the different cultures."

Disabled access review of more than 200 local venues

B R I D G E N D Association of Voluntary Organisations (BAVO) has commissioned 'Disabled Go' to undertake access review of almost 200 venues across the region.

"This will involve people with disabilities visiting local venues such as shops, pubs, restaurants, cinemas, theatres, railway stations, hotels, universities and hospitals to make an access assessment of the facilities.

"Disabled Go is the leading provider for Disabled Go website, where local disabled people can have information at their finger tips before they choose to visit a particular venue.

"For further information, visit www.disabledgo.com.

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LOCAL FAMILY'S FEARS ABOUT NEPAL AFTER EARTHQUAKE

A COWBRIDGE family has spent an anxious week trying to find out if relatives and friends in Kathmandu were still alive after the devastating earthquake that hit Nepal.

Their concern was for all the people they knew there, and also for three schools that their charity – funded by people in the Vale – has built over the last 10 years.

Samantha Allen lived in Kathmandu for several years with her Nepalese husband, Raju Tamang, before moving back to Cowbridge in 2012.

Samantha first visited Nepal in 2004, and subsequently went back with her father David. When he returned to the Vale, the enthusiastic reaction to talks that he gave to various organisations led to the setting up of their charity.

She met Raju, who was a guide on treks to Everest base camp, and they married in a Buddhist ceremony in June, 2006. They returned in 2012 when Samantha was pregnant with their little girl Rosalie.

Samantha told The GEM: "We knew Nepal was at risk of an earthquake but it was still such a shock when it actually happened."

When the devastating news broke, the rest of the day was spent frantically trying to get news of family and friends. Eventually,

by PHILIP IRWIN

a family member posted on Facebook that everyone was safe and unharmed.

"It was an enormous relief," said Raju.

Efforts then turned to searching for news from Raju's parents' village in a rural region, north east of Kathmandu called Dolakha.

David said: "Over the years, Vale residents have been incredibly supportive of our small charity that operates in Dolakha and Kathmandu.

"We are happy to report that most of the families and children we support have been accounted for."

Raju said: "We believe a couple of families may have left Kathmandu in the immediate aftermath of the earthquake, so we are still trying to get contact them."

Sadly, on the day that The GEM spoke to Samantha and Raju, he had heard that one relative had been found dead in the rubble of a Kathmandu building.

On the subject of the area where their charity operates, David said: "The buildings in the Dolakha villages have not fared so well."

"It is estimated that at least 80 per cent have collapsed, including Raju's parents' home. The three schools built by the charity are still standing but need assessing for damage, as some are cracked and nobody wants to venture

inside yet due to the continuing aftershocks.

"In a way, we were lucky," said Raju. "The quake happened during the day on a Saturday when the villagers were outside planting crops or doing chores. It could have been much worse."

The damage to the schools is a real worry, as the community made huge efforts to build them.

David said: "The first time Raju took me to them, it was a seven-hour bus ride, followed by a three-hour trek. The same distance in the UK would have been a 45-minute drive!

"When it came to building the school, bags of cement were taken as far as possible, and then the women of the village carried that cement over the same three-hour walk!"

Raju added: "Some women did that twice in one day."

David said: "The Nepalese are the nicest, most honest people you could meet. They are also incredibly hard-working and very resilient."

"It is cruel that they have to contemplate rebuilding, but I can't think of a more determined group of people."

He added that people in the Vale can be assured that charitable donations, which are now desperately needed, would be used to maximum effect by the Nepalese villagers.

If anyone wants to help, please visit www.aidfor nepalchildren.org.uk



(Left to right): David Allen, Samantha Allen, Rosalie, and Raju Tamang.

Coastwatch set to take over Old Pilot Lookout

A FAMILIAR landmark is being given a new lease of life – as part of the Bridgend County Borough Council's harbour-side redevelopment programme in Porthcawl.

With Townscape Heritage funding, the refurbishment of the Old Pilot Lookout at the eastern end of the Esplanade is almost complete and the National Coastwatch Institution (NCI) is to take over the lookout and operate a coastal surveillance operation during daytime hours and peak periods from early this summer.

This is particularly important as HM Coastguard at Swansea

has closed and the nearest reporting station for all coastal and maritime emergencies is now at Milford Haven.

Even with the local volunteer Coastguard onshore rescue units, the RNLI and other emergency services on 24-hour standby, there is no other regular visual surveillance of our coastline both onshore and offshore.

All our coastal users, swimmers, surfers, kite surfers, kayakers, sailors and walkers will be reassured when they see that there is a high-visibility trained

watchkeeping team ready to respond immediately if a problem is spotted or reported to them.

All the staff at the lookout will be unpaid volunteers from the area and will be trained to a high standard. They will pay their own costs for travelling and uniform.

Training takes around six months and more

Volunteers will be moving in to the watchtower when refurbishment work is complete.



volunteers would be at all times, and with a the redevelopment of welcome. Porthcawl small exhibition area also Porthcawl's harbourside open downstairs.

We have already As further received great support use of the crew room for winter and on-going training, it is intended to visitors and, especially, open seven days a week.

from Phil Missen and his

Station manager Phil team at the RNLI Station. Jones said: "This is a We are grateful to them major step forward in all. If you share our improving safety along objectives, you are most our beautiful but welcome to join and hazardous coast and support us".

BRIAN ROPER

'Help us keep our coastline clean' – appeal to residents

KEEP Wales Tidy is urging people in Bridgend county borough to get involved and volunteer their time during 'Clean Coast Week', supported by McDonald's, during May 8-17, to help care for our award-winning Welsh coastline.

With a week of events taking place nationwide, including some on Coney, Trecco and Newton beaches on May 15, Keep Wales

Tidy is searching for volunteers across Wales, committing to work together to help give beaches and coastline looking beautiful and ready for everyone to enjoy during the busy summer months.

The third annual Clean Coast Week, sponsored by McDonald's Restaurants Ltd, coincides with Clean Europe Week, which aims to reduce litter and promote responsible behaviour across Europe.

Keep Wales Tidy, one of Wales' leading environment charities, is

along with restaurant staff, community groups, schools and businesses, will take part in clean-up events across the country as part of the week of action.

The third annual Clean Coast Week 2015 follows the success of the previous two years.

During that time, over 225 registered events have taken place along the Welsh coast, with over 5,100 people getting involved in collecting more than 5,000 bags of rubbish.

Events have already been organised across the country to help give beaches a spring clean before the busy summer season, but Keep Wales Tidy needs more volunteers to sign up.

Lesley Jones, chief executive for Keep Wales Tidy said: "The coastline is very

Sponsored bike ride in Bridgend

CYCLING enthusiasts in Bridgend county borough are invited to take part in a sponsored bike ride in aid of the Prostate Cymru charity.

Bikerfun is hosting the ride for the Bridgend Rotary Club on Sunday, June 28, at 8am. The 22 or 40-mile ride will start and finish at the Brewery Field on Tondu Road.

There is a minimum sponsorship fee of £10 per person, which includes entry. However, family groups of three or more may enter for £20.

Sponsorship can be paid via the following JustGiving link: www.justgiving.com/rotary-bridgend. For more information email rotarybikerfun@gmail.com

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BRIAN ROPER

VE Day is remembered

TOMORROW, May 8, between 10am and 12pm, Pencoed Library will be hosting a coffee morning to mark the 70th anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE) Day.

Local residents are invited to join commemorative celebrations at the library, which will be decked out with bunting and pictures, while enjoying background music reminiscent of the end of the World War Two in Europe.

Representatives from the Pencoed branch of the Royal British Legion will be present to collect voluntary donations and they will also have a selection of items such as poppies, bracelets and armbands available to purchase.

To find out what's going on in your local library, visit www.bridgend.gov.uk/libraries, email blis@bridgend.gov.uk or telephone 01656 754800. You can also like 'Bridgend Libraries' page on Facebook, or follow @BridgendLibs on Twitter.

ADVICE SURGERY

THE Welsh Liberal Democrat Assembly Member for South Wales West, Peter Black, will be holding an advice surgery on Friday, May 8 in Maesteg library from 2pm to 3pm. No appointment is necessary.

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**Club thanks Peter
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Chairman Janet Richards presenting Peter Jenkins with the Natic Gable Cup.

AT the recent AGM of Porthcawl Bridge Club, the Natic Gable Cup for the 'best member of the year' was presented to Peter Jenkins.

Peter has been treasurer of the club for many years, but has now closed his wallet, with Roger Draper elected as the treasurer.

The club also resurrected the Mollie Hart Trophy – a pivot teams event in which each member of the team-of-four partners each other member in turn (results below).

The latest results from the club are: Saturday April 18: First, Peter and Sandie Jenkins; second – Dil and Marian Evans.

Monday, April 20: First, Gary Williams and Tony Haworth; second, Terry Dolan and Roger Plant.

Thursday, April 23: First, Keith Davison and Tony Haworth; second, Gary Williams and Pat Haworth.

Saturday, April 25: First, Colin and Hazel Heard; second, Dil and Marian Evans.

Monday, April 27: First, Trish Saunders and Janet Richards; second, Gary Williams and Tony Haworth.

Thursday, April 30: Mollie Hart Pivot Teams – First, Emer Disley, Pat Haworth, Betty Longley, Gary Williams; second,

ABOVE: Miles Hire Ltd have just opened alongside Bracey's builders' merchants in School Road, Pontyclun, and two special guests – Scott Baldwin and Richard Webster of the Ospreys – came along for the opening day. Scott, a current Welsh international, cut the tape. In the photo are (left to right): Ryan Miles; Scott Baldwin; Darren Miles; Ben Millar of Bracey's and Richard Webster. Photograph by Mandy Thomas www.mandythomasphotography.co.uk

Concert raises £400 for Nepal

ON May 1, an

informal evening of song was held in Llangynwyd Hall by Cor Meibion Maesteg ar Cylch before a full house.

The choir was in very good voice, and the acoustics in the hall made the audience gasp when they started with 'Men of Harlech'.

The choir meets three times a week – Saturday and Thursday at the Avel-y-Mor Centre, and Monday at the Glamorgan Holiday Hotel 7pm–10.15pm. Visitors are welcome at any time. To contact the club, call secretary Trish on 01656 785794.

TH

While the choir took a well-deserved break, the audience were entertained by soprano Sally-Ann Kingsbury and her versatile husband Tony and both performed with their usual professionalism.

The evening was a total success and an impromptu bucket collection for the disaster in Nepal raised £400.

The Llangynwyd Hall committee would like to thank the choir and their numbers through to musical team, together songs from the shows, with Sally-Ann and Tony, for the wonderful led by musical director Rhian Jenkins, that a similar evening accompanied by the very talented Ryan Wood.

The evening will be held later in the year.

TH

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OGMORE VALE YOUTH CLUB DEMANDS GREATER ROAD SAFETY FOR LOCAL CHILDREN

RIGHT:
Members of the Wyndham Boys and Girls' Club want measures taken to ensure road safety.

A youth club in Ogmore Vale has launched a campaign demanding greater road safety near its meeting place.

Youth volunteer at the Wyndham Boys and Girls' Club Mark Williams explained: "We have over 50 children who attend our club during busy months and the average age is 10 years ago."

"After a near miss recently we feel we must take action. We have asked for fencing and a 'slow down' sign but are still waiting."

"Over the years there have been many accidents due to the location of the club which has been here for over 75 years."

"There is a shop on the other side of the road and the children tend to cross and have no clear view due to the cars in the street on each side."

"We want the council to place signs and a safety ramp for cars in the street to slow down."

Mr Williams said that the speed of cars was such that he feared a child could get killed.



The neighbours have witnessed cars speeding at over 50 miles an hour and we have started signing a petition. We feel we need to empower the children to believe that they can do something that they believe must happen.

"The Wyndham Boys and Girls' Club has no responsibility outside the door and have no way of managing the children in and out of the club. The club feels that due to some children of a very young age it must act now."

He added that he hoped the Bridgend County Borough Council would respond positively because it had already erected electric signs two minutes up the road.

A council spokesman told The GEM: "Bridgend County Borough Council regularly reviews traffic incident information supplied by South Wales Police so that bids for Welsh Government funding for traffic calming measures can focus on those roads with the greatest need."

"There are no plans to introduce new measures along Dunraven Place as the statistics do not indicate it being a priority location that would be eligible for a funding bid."

"However, council officers met with the local councillor last week to discuss various concerns in the Wyndham and Nantymoel areas and we will continue to monitor the situation."

Election time!

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The Bridgend candidates, in alphabetical order, are as follows:

David, Aaron – Trade Unionist and Socialist Coalition.

Davies, Anita Dawn – Liberal Democrat. Elston, David Anthony – Official Pirate Party.

Jenkins, Meirion – Welsh Conservative.

Jones, Caroline – UKIP.

Lloyd, Adam John – National Front.

Moon, Madeleine – Labour.

Radcliffe, James Christopher – Plaid Cymru.

Tallon-Morris, Les – Independent.

White, Tony – Green Party.

The Ogmore candidates, in alphabetical order, are as follows:

Brophy, Laurie – Green Party.

Davies, Glenda – UKIP.

Francis, Gerald Leslie – Liberal Democrats.

Irranca-Davies, Huw – Labour.

March, Jane – Conservative.

Saunders, Emma – Trade Unionist and Socialist Coalition.

Thomas, Tim – Plaid Cymru.

CHARITY ASKS FOR SUPPORT

KPC Youth in Pyle is asking local people to support its grant application to fund a 'Fit and Fun' club.

The charity's application to the Aviva Community Fund is under consideration, but votes supporting the project will be crucial to its success.

The Fit and Fun Club would be an exercise/dance class for adults, run weekly.

KPC's project development manager, Alison Mawby, told The GEM: "We are asking local people to vote and support the project.

"You can do so by going to <https://communityfund.aviva.co.uk/voting/Project/View/2605> where you will find details of the proposal, and instructions on how to vote."

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Wales Macmillan skin cancer nurse urges sun awareness



Nurse Sharon Hulley.

WITH summer just around the corner, a Macmillan skin cancer nurse from south Wales is backing the British Association of Dermatologist's Sun Awareness Week (May 4-10) by urging people to stay safe in the sun.

The number of people developing melanoma is continuing to rise, with around 110,330 people living with malignant melanoma in the UK, and over 700 people diagnosed every year in Wales.

Sharon Hulley, Macmillan skin cancer nurse based at University Hospital of Wales, explains: "Most melanomas are linked to over exposure to UV

rays from the sun or a sunbed. Just one episode of painful sunburn every two years can triple your risk of getting melanoma. I would urge everyone to 'get to know their skin'."

"I would recommend that everyone check their skin on a monthly basis to get to know where their moles or freckles are, and to get someone else to check the areas they can't see such as the back, bottom and back of legs. It's only when you know what they usually look like, that you would know if any were changing or new."

"About half of all melanomas start with a change in previously normal-looking skin. This usually looks like a dark area or an abnormal new mole. Other melanomas develop from a mole or freckle that you already have – maybe a mole that changes colour, bleeds, itches or is painful. If you are worried about any changes on your skin, you should visit your GP."

Sharon continued: "Skin cancer, if caught early, is very treatable and actually has one of the highest survival rates of all cancers and being sun aware is key. Our advice is to avoid sun beds, wear a high SPF sun screen, and cover up in the sun."

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Apprentice scoops Skills gold medal

PENARTH apprentice, Aaron Horrobin, who is studying a Level 2 Diploma in wall and floor tiling at Cardiff and Vale College, beat four other competitors from colleges across Wales to win the gold medal in the Skills Competition Wales final. He also won the Welsh heat of SkillBUILD Tiling.

The finalists had to tile a boat design onto a wall within the time limit of five hours and Aaron (24) an apprentice at his father's tiling business, Supreme Ceramics in Penarth, said the competition had been close.

"I won the junior competition last year, but I never thought I'd win again this time round. The design that they gave us was quite tricky as it meant we had lots of curves and tricky cuts, but I did my best and was thrilled when they announced that I'd won in the awards presentation that night."

LONGER-LIFE CATS LEFT ON THE SHELF

CATS are living longer, but the homeless feline senior citizen is being overlooked, according to Cats Protection's Bridgend Adoption Centre.

The centre says improvements in cat care have greatly raised the life expectancy and quality of life for cats across the UK.

However, the bad news is that owners still appear to choose a cute, fluffy kitten or young cat over an older cat – and this puts a massive strain on the adoption centre.

Sue Dobbs, centre manager, said: "While 10 years ago the household moggie could have been expected to live to around 13, today's life expectancy is much higher.

"We have seen many cats surviving to their late teens and early 20s in remarkably good health.

"However, their longer existence places the centre under strain because older cats can block up pet spaces for many months, which means we are unable to help other needy cats or kittens until the older ones are found new homes.

"It is a shame, because older cats have

a lot to offer, as they tend to be lap cats and have much more settled natures. Though the centre does its very best to care for all the cats in its care, life in a pen is no substitute for a permanent home so I would urge people to consider adopting an older cat."

Some of the older cats in desperate need of a home are:



Heathcliff.
Images by
SUSAN DOBBS.

**Katie.****Tipsy.**

• Heathcliff, a 16-year-old male admitted for rehoming because of changes in work commitments. He is a lovely, friendly cat who is finding the centre environment particularly stressful.

• Katie, a 10-year-old female and one of our longest staying cats.

She was admitted because she wasn't settled with the other cats in the home.

She is a lovely, friendly cat who would make a purrfect lap cat.

• Tipsy, an 11-year-old female cat, admitted into our care because her owner was allergic. She is a friendly but independent cat who will make a great companion.

For advice about caring for a cat, or to offer one a home, call the centre on 01656 724396.

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GIANT WELLY HIGHLIGHTS FUNDRAISING RNLI DRIVE

THE Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) unveiled a series of eight-foot yellow wellington boot sculptures to mark the launch of its national fundraising campaign, Mayday.

Yellow and welly-themed events have been organised by communities across Wales to help support the charity that saves lives at sea.

One of the larger-than-life welly boots will come down to Barry Island to show her support to her daddy (Barry Dock coxswain Hugh Davies) and the local volunteer crew.

The Cardiff welly was unveiled by one of the RNLI's biggest fans: six-year-old Mia Davies from Barry, a pupil at Ysgol Sant Baruc. Mia hopes plenty of people

will come down to Barry to donate, visit RNLI.org/Mayday or text MAYDAY to 70007 to donate £3. Funds raised through the Mayday campaign will help fund the RNLI's lifesaving work.

Text cost £3 + standard network rate. Please ensure you have the payer's permission. The RNLI will receive £3.

'I am not Rainman'

THE National Autistic Society (Cardiff and Vale branch) has organised a talk by Robert Parton entitled, 'I am not Rainman' on Saturday, June 6 in Ysgol y Deri, Sully Road, Penarth, CF64 2TP, from 10.30am-1pm.

Robert Parton, aged 20, from Swansea, has high functioning autism. Diagnosed at three, with very limited speech and profound sensory issues, he has overcome adversity to become a truly amazing public speaker.

This event will be mainly of interest to families whose lives are touched by autism, and professionals who work in the field of disability; plus those who may wish to become more aware of

autism. It is not restricted to branch members but pre-booking is essential. Age restriction – no children under the age of 15 years.

There is a suggested donation of £3 per person or £5 per family, which can be made on the door.

The event is subsidised by the branch, which is self-funded and relies on donations and fundraising to be able to put on our monthly coffee mornings, workshops and other activities.

For more information, go to <http://www.cardiffandvaleautism.org.uk/>.

To book a place, go to <http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/national-autistic-society-cardiff-vale-branch-autism-robert-parton-im-not-rainmantickets-15775149898>?

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MAESTEG'S CROSS INN IS CROWNED PUB OF THE YEAR

A MAESTEG pub has been crowned Pub of the Year by the Vale of Glamorgan and Bridgend branch of the Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA).

The Cross Inn at Cwmfelin, on the outskirts of Maesteg, was voted CAMRA Pub of the Year for Vale of Glamorgan and Bridgend for the second time in three years. It was presented with the award due to the quality of its ale served, as well as meeting a range of criteria including style, atmosphere, decoration, service and welcome, community focus and value for money.

The Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA)

supports well-run pubs as the centres of community life – whether in rural or urban areas – and believe their continued existence plays a critical social role in UK culture.

CAMRA also supports the pub as the one place in which to consume real ale (also known as cask-conditioned beer, or cask ale).

In an area where good real ales are hard to find, this friendly multi-roomed pub with its own green-energy-run Cerddin Brewery is a breath of fresh air. Cerddin is Welsh for rowan tree which, in mythology, has magical properties.

The pub is situated between Maesteg and Bridgend, with buses stopping at the front door and the railway station within walking distance.

It has been owned and

run by David Morgan and his wife Gillian Scott-Morgan since 1992, who are now

helped by their

daughter. In 2010, they

installed a brewery at the

side of the pub and made

news as the first brewery

in Britain to be entirely

powered by solar energy.

CAMRA spokesman Nigel said that the award was well earned and explained that it's not just down to them offering five beers brewed on site and three ciders, which are sold in exemplary condition and at excellent prices. Other factors were taken into account – atmosphere, layout and the role the pub plays in the local community.

David Morgan said: "I wanted to create a community feel and give people a reason to come to Cwmfelin and Maesteg, and help raise the profile of area."

NEIL GOODMAN

College seeks new governors

THE governance structure for Cardiff and Vale College (CAVC) is set to change and this week the college has launched a recruitment campaign, seeking to attract new members to the board of governors.

challenging, exciting role that will enable you to influence change and directly support individuals, communities and employers across the region."

CAVC is looking to recruit individuals that reflect its vision and aims but who also have valuable experience from across a range of sectors, including business, finance, legal, PR, media, marketing, charity and education. Diversity and community representation will be at the heart of the board.

There are several roles available with varying commitments.

These are: governors, committee members and community board members (for both Cardiff Community Board and Vale Community Board).

A page has been set up on the College's website (<http://www.cavc.ac.uk/en/about-us/governance/join-our-board>) with all the information on the new governance structure; along with the application form and details of how to apply.

Geraint Evans, chair of governors, said: "Since establishment in 2011, Cardiff and Vale College has proven to be one of the most exciting and innovative colleges in the country.

"Being part of our new governing body will see you supporting the college to achieve its vision.

"It is a uniquely



ABOVE: Gillian Scott-Morgan and David Morgan of the Cross Inn.

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Vet nurse raises £400 for Support Dogs in the London Marathon

A veterinary nurse from Barry is putting her feet up after completing her first Virgin Money London Marathon, and raising £400 for charity Support Dogs in the process.

Sian Llewellyn is head nurse at the Barry and Boerton Veterinary Surgeries.

A keen runner, she had completed two half marathons and entered the ballot to run the marathon, little expecting to get a place as she knew many fellow runners who had tried for several years without success.

She explained:

"Finding I'd been accepted for the marathon last October was a surprise and my first thought was that I'd better start doing some proper training, which I did with the help of my running club, the Village Vipers, based in Cardiff."

"Taking part was really tough! I had abdominal and hip pain towards the end, but family, friends and the roar of the crowd got me through. The drums, music and fancy dress costumes made me smile at so many points throughout the 26.2 miles. You can't help but laugh when you see a gorilla skipping along the route or an ostrich

having to stop to go to the toilet.

"My highest point was turning the corner to run down the Mall to cross the finish line, hand in hand with a complete stranger. Receiving my medal was an emotional and proud moment. I finished in five and a half hours, which was slower than I hoped, but I blame the various painful parts of my body!"

Ten days before entering the race, Sian attended a talk about Support Dogs and was inspired to use her participation to fundraise for them. She has so far raised £400 for the charity, which is dedicated to increasing independence and quality of life for people with medical conditions by training and supporting specialist assistance dogs.

It currently trains autism assistance dogs, disability assistance dogs and seizure alert dogs.

She added: "Support Dogs are amazing and, having heard what a difference they make to so many people, I really wanted to raise funds for them."

"I'm already being asked whether I'll enter



SIAN LLEWELLYN

another marathon. During the race my answer would have been no, never again! Now that the pain is ebbing away, my answer is most likely yes!"

Anyone wishing to donate to Sian's chosen charity, Support Dogs, is asked to contact her at the Barry and Boerton Veterinary Surgery. It is based at 51-53 Ty-Newydd Road, Barry, South Glamorgan CF62 8AZ and can be reached on 01446 733406. More information on Support Dogs is at www.supportdogs.org.uk.

STROLLING ALONG VALE COAST IN THE SUNSHINE

ON a beautiful sunny spring weekend, Penarth and District Ramblers enjoyed two walks with the central theme of water, first a trek along the beautiful Vale coastline, followed by a fantastic journey through some of the glorious waterfalls in the Neath Valley.

A group of seven and Jodie the Staffie joined Geraint on a train ramble to Rhoose, then following the Wales Coast Path along the coast through Fontygary to visit the ruined limeworks and waterfowl at Pleasant Harbour, before continuing past Aberthaw Power Station to Gileston.

Crossing the pebbles above Limpert Bay, lunch followed in warm sunshine using picnic tables at Summerhouse Point before making their way along the cliffs beside cropped fields to Llantwit Major beach.

Turning inland through Cwm Colhuw, up a steep bank led along a track to Lower House Farm. Then, following the road for a

short distance before deviating through a field containing the 14th century stone dovecot which was part of a grange run by lay brothers, steps led them down past the Ogney Brook to the church named after St Illtud, who founded a monastery which became a centre for education there in the 6th century.

Continuing on past Sgwd Isaf Clun-Gwyn, after a steep climb, Sgwd yr Eira came into view.

Strolling on through the town to the railway station, it was only a short wait in the sunshine before the homeward journey.

Clive and his eight companions enjoyed a magnificent adventure beginning from Pontneddfechan and following the old tramroad beside the Nedd Fechan River with its variety of smaller falls.

A lovely bluebell wood above Pont Melin-fach opened onto a rocky bridleway and reaching the top, the panoramic views stretched for miles under glorious warm sunshine.

Following sunken tracks laden with wild violets and blackthorn trees to Cwm Porth, there was time for a quick peek at Porth yr Ogof, the largest cave entrance in Wales before lunch.

Narrow rocky

pathways below the cliff face led them scrambling steeply down to the stunning waterfall of Sgwd y Pannwr in the Mellte valley, which was breathtaking as it tumbled into the valley below.

On May 10, the group are hosting the area walks, where there will be a choice of three walks (five, eight and 15-mile walks) in the Vale, all leaving Bonvilston Reading Room car park at 9.30am.

For more details of the routes and contact details, visit the group website below.

Wear suitable clothing, preferably boots and carry waterproofs, food and drinks. Some degree of fitness is required and if you are in any doubt, contact the walk leader for advice.

To follow the group, log onto www.penarthramblers.wordpress.com.

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Out and About with The GEM

Cowbridge Food & Drink Festival's new ticket scheme

THIS year, the Cowbridge Food and Drink Festival decided to offer advanced ticket sales on their website.

This is facilitated by a Penarth-based company, Ticketsource, and is proving very popular.

Event organiser, Polly Wilson, told The GEM: "This is a new avenue for us; we set up the link in January and immediately started seeing ticket sales trickling in, which was amazing as the festival is in May. Now, it is really taking off!"

"With 2015 day ticket prices remaining at £5 and weekend tickets at £8, with 10 per cent off and the comparatively small booking charge per transaction (not per ticket as with other providers), you make a saving immediately on over two tickets."

"You will also skip the ticket office queues over the weekend."

"You will be sent confirmation of the

order which you simply take to the Arthur John car park entrance, where there will be a dedicated entrance to scan your booking and receive your wristbands."

"As with 2013, the wristbands will then allow you access to all festival sites and activities, as well as offer many benefits with traders around Cowbridge."

Tickets are available until May 22, and of course will be available on the day.

The Festival will also give a Cowbridge Food and Drink Festival recipe book (to be collected from the main marquee) to the first 100 bookings who quote 'GEM' as part of their name when booking a ticket, eg enter 'Helen Jones - GEM'.

• Full details of the festival are available on the website at: cowbridgefoodanddrink.org/buy-tickets.

Monsters: Dark Continent falls between two stools...

ONE of the bigger surprises of the last few years was Gareth Edwards'

Monsters, an intimate story set against the aftermath of an alien invasion that was notable for Edwards' technical trickery (all the effects were done himself on his own computer) and the fact that it focused more on characters than spectacle.

It seemed an unlikely source for a sequel, but since when has that stopped a film studio, and *Monsters: Dark Continent* finds itself loosely connected to the original.

Ten years on from that story, the alien infected zones that were once wholly in central America have now spread worldwide, and, in particular, the Middle East, where a new insurgency has begun. Noah (Johnny Harris) and Michael (Sam Keeley) are two of the soldiers who must battle not only the insurgents,

but also the creatures, and hope to survive...

Anyone expecting *Dark Continent* to follow *Monsters'* subtle approach to storytelling will be disappointed, the film is a gung-ho, action film that certainly has a degree more intelligence than your average grunt and gun type of film.

However, it's also a film that feels very peculiar, almost as if the filmmakers created a story telling of the horrors and psychological stresses suffered by those fighting on the front lines of the ongoing 'war on terror' but were forced to piggyback on the *Monsters* name in order to make it a more palatable sell.

There is no real man versus monster conflict here; much like the first film the titular creatures are simply background, dipping into the story here and there but staying below the surface, with the main emphasis on the human story, the ordinary taking precedent over the extraordinary – it is this that is the film's main problem.

The creatures play such a small role in what takes place that it

feels like a shameless cash-in on the first film's goodwill to use the *Monsters* title. What would have worked better is a story a group of men signing up for the army, and travelling halfway across the world to fight the good fight only to find themselves woefully unprepared and out of their depth, shorn of any mention of creatures from space.

The film plays this way for the majority of the running time, and does contain a degree more pathos and smarts than most films that do a similar thing, but it's undone by weak characterisation, an almost predictable order of death as things begin to go drastically wrong (if you can't predict the first character to be offed then you obviously don't watch enough films!) and performances that never really stretch themselves.

The most impressive thing on show in this otherwise mundane and muddled film is director Tom Green, whose direction is in your face and incredibly visceral, creating moments of breathless tension and edgy drama, yet also

capable of moments of real beauty and subtlety.

Green's previous experience lies in television, but he makes the step up here superbly well, the direction incredibly impressive.

It's just a shame that what he and co-writer Jay Basu have come up with doesn't gel together well enough. As a 'monster' movie the only conflict is ideology, while as a movie about the terrors and hellish nature of war, it all too often feels clichéd.

It certainly isn't the worst film in the world, probably not even the worst film in cinemas right now, but *Monsters: Dark Continent* doesn't really

deliver what it says on the tin.

VERDICT: A misguided attempt to jump on a bandwagon that, in all fairness, had left the station a while ago, *Monsters: Dark Continent* finds itself caught between paying lip service to the concept of the first *Monsters* film, while taking the story in a different direction that showcases the horrors of war and the foolish bravado of youth.

It has a few moments, but aside from Tom Green's impressive direction, there's not much to chew on here. *Poor.*

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *The Hurt Locker* (2008), *Starship Troopers* (1997).



by
GARETH JAMIESON
Follow Screen Talk on Twitter - @GEMScreenTalk

Screening a sell-out!

LLANCARFAN Community Cinema is hosting a second performance of popular Welsh film *Dark Horse* (2015, PG) after selling-out their first scheduled screening in record time.

Dark Horse tells the remarkable true-life story of the Welsh village syndicate that owns champion racehorse Dream Alliance, which won a string of races, including the Welsh Grand National, just 18 months after a near-fatal accident.

Llancafan Community Cinema is screening the film, which won the Sundance Film Festival Audience Award in 2014, with support from Film

Hub Wales. All profit from the screenings is going to the Llancafan Village Hall fund for much-needed maintenance and repairs.

"We've been amazed at the response this film has received," says cinema volunteer Jim Barratt. "We knew it would appeal to racing fans and horse-lovers, and the Welsh connection gives it local interest. But we never expected to sell out so quickly. It helps that the film has had glowing reviews. It's great to see a local story doing so well on the big screen."

Tickets are still available for the second performance on Saturday, May 16 at 7.30pm. Full details can be found on the web site: www.llancafancinema.co.uk.

Jim Barratt

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What's on and where?

Vale AM's surgery

THE Vale AM, Jane Hutt, will be holding a surgery this Saturday (May 9) from 10am - 12 noon at the Barry Citizens' Advice Bureau, 119 Broad Street. No appointment necessary.

Spring fair in Rhoose

COME along to Rhoose WI spring fair to be held on Saturday (May 9) at the Community Hall, Stewart Road from 10am - 12 noon.

Crafts, cakes, plants, tombola. Admission £2 (to include tea/coffee and biscuits).

Councillors' surgery

THE Labour Vale and town councillors for Castledown Ward, Chris Elmore, Pamela Drake, Karl Kuhnell and Les Sword will be holding their monthly advice surgery on Saturday (May 9) from 10.30am to 12 noon in the Castledown Community Centre, Belvedere Crescent, Barry.

No appointment is

necessary.

Floral society

THE next meeting of the Barry Floral Society will be held at the St Nicholas Hall, St Nicholas Road, Barry on Tuesday, May 12, at 2.15pm, when the demonstrator will be Mrs Delyth Price (area demonstrator).

The afternoon's entertainment is entitled 'A Night at the Musicals!'. New members are always welcome.

Poetry and stories

FOLLOWING the success of asking people aged 50-plus in the Vale to submit poems and stories, the Vale 50 Plus Strategy Forum is displaying all the poems and stories received at Barry Central Library from May 11-15 during library opening hours.

Library event

THERE will be a coffee morning at Barry library on Thursday, May 13 from 10am - 12 noon, co-hosted by the library and the Vale of

Glamorgan Carers' Information Service.

There will be cakes, tea and coffee, poetry, and information on health, well-being, and library services for visually-impaired, housebound readers and carers.

There is no charge, but donations towards the cost of the coffee and cakes welcomed.

St Paul's spring fair

FAMOUS for over 50 years for stalls full of bargains, this year will be no exception at St Paul's spring fair in Barry.

On sale are toys, books, DVDs and CDs; gifts and cards; home-made cakes; bric-a-brac; sweets; crafts and prizes; every-time stall; raffle with first prize of £50.

Doors open on Saturday, May 16 at 2pm in the hall at St Paul's Avenue, Barry; admission 50p (entry for children is free).

All proceeds from the fair will continue the work of St Paul's and Merthyr Dyfan.

Penarth charity project is overcoming difficulties

THE Penarth and District Lesotho Trust has continued its financial and technical support of the children in Teyateyaneng, especially in their junior academy where over half the pupils are orphans and the residential accommodation at the school is their home.

Their headteacher, Godfrey Kakende, is, as he fondly refers to his role, "their mother and father".

The last few months have brought good and bad news because Mr Kakende has become a father after baby Constantina came into the world, but this was followed by the devastating news of his serious car accident.

His car was in collision with another vehicle and in the accident, the three occupants of the other vehicle were killed and Mr Kakende sustained many serious fractures and injuries.

However, this former Ugandan Olympic footballer has again demonstrated his determination and resilience and is making a good, if rather slow, recovery.

Social group meets the owls

MEMBERS OF Friends and Neighbours social group who meet at Beryl Road received a visit from Owls-4-u at their April Meeting.

Ann Bird and Alan Sheppard brought seven of their feathered friends to visit the group. Asha, Bart, Dai, Dusty, Honey, Babe and Merlin seemed to enjoy the attention they received and some were even happy to be held and stroked by the members of the group.

Ann talked about

each owl and its history and their habitat and explained how Owls-4-u was established when Swan Rescue closed. Ann answered questions from the group which was followed by tea/coffee, cakes and biscuits, followed by the raffle.

The group is now looking forward to the lunch at Spinney and forthcoming trip to Tewksbury and trip on the river. Contact Gay Fifield, coordinator for further information.

GF

'Teachings of Christianity are inclusive'

WITH reference to the letter on page 25 in last week's GEM, 'Christians are being persecuted', my first question is why was this even published as it is clearly plain and simple ignorance, and homophobia which I actually believe is illegal.

Were you to publish a letter requesting that

people not vote for a certain party due to race, I'm certain there would be some investigation involving the police.

This letter is nothing more than a witch hunt. I am certain the fundamental teachings of Christianity are inclusive and loving, therefore those who pick and choose verses for the persecution of others are the real persecutors of Christianity!

Kate Mason,
Normanton, West Yorkshire.

He is back in school, though the rocky nature of the school site does make it so difficult for movement on crutches and sadly, more hospital treatment is urgently needed.

Since last summer, so many improvements have been made to the TY junior academy. The second dormitory has been built and now the boys and girls have separate sleeping quarters. This was the major objective highlighted by the visit last summer of Penarth Lesotho Youth, the junior section of PADLT.

There have also been improvements made to the school classroom buildings and facilities improved in the library. The 'one tap for water' situation which amazed everyone has now at last been improved.

So, PADLT gives 98 per cent of all money obtained from gifts, donations and from the many events that are organised, to its work in Lesotho.

Our next money-raising events are the very popular annual plant and craft sale on Saturday, May 9, 10am to 1pm in Stanwell Road Baptist Church Hall, Windsor Road, Penarth, next to the Padget Rooms.

Plants can be fetched if you phone 02920 702269. This will be followed by the 13th annual 5km fun run on Saturday, June 10, at 11am around the lakes in Cosmeston Country Park.

Sponsor forms can be obtained from howellskeith@yahoo.co.uk.

KH



Godfrey Kakende, the headteacher of TY junior academy on his crutches greeting a visitor on the rocky site of the residential school.

News in brief

Valeways guided walks

THURSDAY May 7, 10.30am 'Bluebells'; St Brides Major, car park opposite Fox & Hounds.

Sunday, May 10 at 1pm: Coastal path to Monkash, meet at Monkash car park near lighthouse. Fee payable.

Monday May 11, 10am: Walk and Click, Cosmeton Lakes Country Park, meet near visitor centre.

Tuesday, May 12 at 1.30pm: Somerset Views, meet at Rhoose railway station car park.

Wednesday, May 13, 10.30am: Coffee Shop Strollers at Cosmeton Country Park, outside the visitor centre.

Coping with strokes

STAFF at Princess of Wales hospital are working with the Stroke Association to help raise awareness of strokes and work done to help support patients.

As part of the Make May Purple for Stroke campaign, organised by the charity, they will be wearing purple when they host their usual blood pressure awareness sessions on May 11 – 14 from 10am to noon and 1.30pm to 3.30pm outside the pharmacy at Princess of Wales Hospital.

On Wednesday, May 20, there will also be a purple cake bake sale situated outside the Stroke Unit (Ward 2).

Staff will be present to give information about preventing stroke, and life after stroke.

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Talk looks at outset of World War Two

ON April 28, Dr Gordon Roderick gave a talk to the Dinas Powys Probus Club on the political situation leading up to the Second World War.

There were five critical days in 1940 before Britain declared war on Germany. The principal players were Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain, Winston

Churchill and, of course, Adolf Hitler. Chamberlain came from a family involved in industry in Birmingham, Unitarians by religion and social reformers. He did not go to university, nor did Churchill and many other politicians.

As the fear of war grew, he went to see Hitler three times and believed that they were working together to

deal with Hitler's plans for expanding Germany's role in Europe.

In reality, Hitler was hoodwinking Chamberlain, who was regarded as Britain's saviour when he returned from Berlin famously waving a bit of paper that actually said nothing more than Hitler would not go to war with Britain – but this did not prevent him from attacking

other countries.

Churchill was an aristocrat, born in Blenheim Palace and went to Harrow and Sandhurst. He became a hero in the eyes of the public, due to his bravery in the wars in Sudan and South Africa. He was MP for Oldham and a close working colleague of Lloyd George.

Together, they laid down the first guide lines of what would become the Welfare State.

In 1919, under the conditions laid down in the Treaty of Versailles, the aim of which was total humiliation, Germany was penalised for the damage caused by the First World War. Their Army was to be limited in number, as was their Navy, and they were not to develop any military equipment.

It was later realised that these and other conditions were too severe and were later modified. Germany was on its knees and starving due to the British blockade of their ports. They were looking for a saviour, and that was Hitler.

He boosted the economy, he ignored in part the restrictions of Versailles but invaded Austria and

Sudetenland, part of Eastern Germany. He also invaded Czechoslovakia which, to its shame, Britain ignored because it was of no interest.

However, when he invaded Poland, Britain was forced to protest and war was declared.

Until that moment, the population of Britain hoped that war could be avoided, almost at any cost, by considering appeasement to Hitler's threats and had tried to accommodate him over his expansionist plans.

Who was now to lead Britain? Chamberlain did not feel he could cope, and was already terminally ill. Lord Halifax was a possible candidate but he was known to be guilty of lamentable judgement in matters of State. He didn't understand Hitler, but preferred to accept unpleasant facts.

At the meeting to decide the issue, attended by Chamberlain, Churchill and Halifax, Churchill

said nothing but stared out of the window until Halifax had talked himself out of the job, and then declared that he himself would take

on the fight against Hitler, whom he personally despised as a tyrant.

He was declared Prime Minister, but on

the understanding that it would only be until the war was over.

The vote of thanks was given by Colin Turner.

HARP TRIO ARE THE FESTIVAL WINNERS



Triawd Ysgol Iolo Morganwg with their trophy.

THREE young Vale harpists were winners in the ensemble competition at the 'South Glamorgan Festival for Young Musicians' which was held at St John's College, St Mellons.

The winners were Triawd Ysgol Iolo Morganwg – three harpists, Cesia Rhys Lewis, Sara Mair Jones and Caitlin Anna Morris.

The adjudicator James Stretton wrote about their performance: "This purred along like a well-tuned Rolls Royce engine. The sense of ensemble was immaculate throughout. Added to this dynamics, colour and projection. Such detail and commitment. Beautiful work."

He also complimented the ensemble on their harp trio arrangement of the music (he preferred it to the original!).

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Thousands flocked to the RHS Flower Show in the sun!

Images by
GLYN EVANS



IMPRESSIVE
gardening displays
and colourful
blooms saw
thousands of
visitors flock to the
Welsh capital for
the RHS Flower
Show in Bute Park.

Judging had taken place earlier and for the 11th year, Ron Scamp won best exhibit in the floral marquee for his display of daffodils, described by RHS Judge Jekka McVicar as 'one of the most perfect displays of daffodils I've seen in 30 years'.

Victoria Wade was awarded best show garden for her 'Alfresco' garden.

Katie Draper, show manager RHS Flower Show Cardiff said: "This year's show was packed with ideas and inspiration for visitors to take back to their own gardens."

"What better way to enjoy the fantastic weather than coming to see and stock up on beautiful plants from our award-winning nurseries and gain inspiration from our fantastic show gardens!"



CLASSIC CAR CLUB SHOW AT CARDIFF CITY STADIUM

SOUTH Wales Classic Car Club show site facilities with well-signed routes leading to the takes place on May 17 at Cardiff City venue.

The date for the 2015 show has also been changed to Sunday, May 17, thanks to the cooperation of the Morris Minor Owners Club.

"The show will now be held in the 1,200-space car park and setting of the Cardiff City Football Club Stadium.

"For trade and auto jumble enquiries, contact Nigel Taylor on 029 2079 7847 and for exhibitor enquiries, contact Ian Thomas on 01443 406333, or visit our website <http://www.swcc.net>."

Public meeting called on Dinas Powys library

RESIDENTS are being invited to a public meeting, to discuss options to ensure library services continue in Dinas Powys.

Community Council will have to draft a business case to take matters further," he commented.

Representatives of the Vale Council would be present to respond to questions.

Organised by the Community Council, it will take place at Murchfield Hall, Sunncroft Lane on Monday, May 18 at 2.30pm.

Coun Chris Franks, chair of the council, said there appeared to be no alternative but to explore options for residents to play a greater role in the running of the library.

"The library celebrates its 50th anniversary this year and faces a crucial juncture. This is an opportunity for residents to help shape the future with the Vale Council. Should it seem future," Coun Franks appropriate, he added.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Plant sale

PLANT sale, Lesser Town Hall, Cowbridge CF71 7AD, Saturday May 16 from 10am – 12.30pm.

Interesting and unusual plants grown by our hardy plant society members in south Wales with specialist nurseries attending.

Tea, coffee, and home made cakes. Free entry, non members very welcome. CJ

Car boot

THE Dinas Powys Primary School is holding a car boot sale on the Infants' site (Cardiff Road) Sunday, May 17 (9am – 12). Spaces £7, need to be booked and paid in advance. Barbecue and refreshments available. Contact Lynsey on 07903 821063.

Diabetes talk

VALE of Glamorgan Diabetes UK Voluntary Group meets on Tuesday, May 19 in the board room, Llandough Hospital, Penarth, from 7.30pm-9pm.

Claire Greenhouse, British Red Cross, will talk on first aid and all are welcome.

SOLID ROOF CREATES A CONSERVATORY TO 'LIVIN' WHATEVER THE WEATHER

Conservatories are a great way of adding a light and airy room to any home. However, depending on where the conservatory is positioned and the amount of shade outside, it can let in too much light.

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Called a Livin Roof, this system can be fitted to an existing conservatory, so there is no need to change the existing walls and glazing.

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For those who don't enjoy the, all-too-common, pitter-patter of raindrops, the Livin Roof also improves sound insulation compared to polycarbonate and glass.

The inside of the roof is a plaster-boarded to keep an airy and modern 'vaulted ceiling' feel, meaning it can be finished with down-lights or pendant lights. With the option to add glazed panels to the Livin Roof, it's even possible to keep a view of the heavens!



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GEM ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

In Business Update



Hypnosis could help you to overcome fears

AIR travel has become a part of everyday life. However, it is estimated up to one in 10 people suffer from a fear of flying, also known as aerophobia, which can severely limit their horizons.

A fear of flying can occur for various reasons, from claustrophobia to a feeling of loss of control.

The subconscious part of your mind is responsible for your survival, generating 'fight or flight' responses.

Where it was obvious the plane was not in a condition to fly, your

mind would be doing a great job. However, in the case of a flying phobia, the protection mechanism meant to keep you safe is over-sensitive and is now a problem.

Hypnosis can help you overcome your fear by re-educating the subconscious and stopping it becoming over-protective, creating negative feelings.

If you would like to know more, there is a page dedicated to this on my website at: www.cardiffhypnotherapysolutions.co.uk.

For a chat, or to make an appointment, contact Sue Pitman on 07795 964066, or [cardiffhypnotherapysolutions@gmail.com](mailto:suepitman@cardiffhypnotherapysolutions@gmail.com).

Sue Pitman
HPD, DHP, MNCH(Reg)
Clinical Hypnotherapist/
Psychotherapist

Contact Sue on
07795 964066 / 029 20654893

Confidential free initial consultation with no obligation at:
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The Business Centre, Barry.
Wellfield Osteopathic Clinic, Cardiff.
www.cardiffhypnotherapysolutions.com

Make a Will with Hopkins Law

DID you know that over 8 million over-50s haven't yet made a Will, according to insurance provider RIAS.

They also say that a large number of those people automatically assume their assets will go to their loved ones – this is often not the case.

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For more information, visit the Hopkins Law web page, or contact Lynn on 01446 774151.

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Fun Foundations at the Festival

FUN FOUNDATIONS will be opening their doors during the upcoming Cowbridge Food and Drink Festival for two magic shows per day with Simon Sparkles.

The performances will be held at 11.30am and 3.30pm in the nursery foyer.

Come on over to enjoy the delights of the festival and enjoy some family entertainment!

www.funfoundationsdaynursery.co.uk



So much more than a school uniform!

THE Pencil Case is a one-stop shop for children, a perfect mix of uniform and stationery.

The full range of plain uniforms is suitable for any school, including shirts, skirts and trousers (in navy, black and grey), summer dresses, boys' shorts, PE kit, socks and tights. It is the official stockist of school uniforms for Cowbridge Comprehensive and Y Bont Faen, St David's (Colwinston) and Llangan primary schools.

If you need Scouts, Cubs', Beavers', Guides', Brownies' and Rainbows' uniforms, or ballet, gymnastics and dancewear, The Pencil Case is the place to go.

And it's stationery heaven for children and adults of all ages! It stocks a wide range of colourful stationery for school and home, as well as birthday present ideas and greetings cards in English and Welsh.

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Volunteers dig in for community garden...



FATHER Ben Andrews and his parishioners are opening up the garden at the back of St Mary's Church, Barry, for the benefit of the whole community, helped by volunteers.

Despite rainy weather on May 2, the church opened for a coffee morning and consultation. Jane Hutt AM joined them to wish them well and to help them seek support for the community initiative.

She is pictured (above) with Father Ben Andrews and some of the volunteers.

'NATURE AT NIGHT' WALK

RANGERS at Porthkerry Country Park are inviting local nature enthusiasts to join them on their Nature at Night expedition on Thursday, May 21.

As part of the Vale's Walking Festival, the Porthkerry Rangers have organised a short night-time walk around the meadows, ponds, and woods of the park, hunting for nocturnal animals.

Bat detectors will be provided, but a strong torch and suitable, warm clothes are essential.

The walk will set off from the Forest Lodge at 8.30pm, returning at around 10pm.

Children are welcome, but must be accompanied by an adult. Dogs, however, are not allowed.

On Wednesday, May 27, the Rangers are calling for treasure seekers to join the Go Wild scavenger hunt.

There is a sheet of riddles to solve and 10 special items to find, before returning with the answers to collect your prize.

The hunt begins at the golf hut at 10am, runs until 3.30pm, and costs £2.50 per child.

For those closer to Cosmeston, Rangers are organising a children's pond dip and bug hunt for seven to 11 year olds, to discover the park's fascinating mini beasts.

The hunt is also on Wednesday, May 27, the cost is £2.50 per child, and booking is essential due to limited spaces. The hunt starts at the Rangers' Office at 9.45am.

To book a place or for more information about any events, contact Porthkerry on 01446 735389 or email porthkerry@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk. For Cosmeston call 02920 701678 or email cosmestondikes@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk.

'Rhoose Remembered'

THE Rhoose and District History Society will be holding the first of what will be an annual event, entitled 'Rhoose Remembered', on Saturday, May 16 at the Rhoose Community Hall, Stewart Road. All are welcome to enjoy the display of over 500 photographs and interesting documents which reflect the life, work, school and community activities of Rhoose and surrounding villages over the years.

The society's chairman, Jeffrey James, said: "Are you or any of your relatives in the photos? We also encourage you to bring your own photographs and other memorabilia which you may wish to donate or have scanned to add to our archives."

Doors will be open from 10.30am to 4pm. There will be a small entrance fee of £1 per adult to cover costs, but school age children will be admitted free. Refreshments will be available.

Top national award for South Wales storekeeper Elton



Elton Jones of United Carpets and Beds is pictured receiving his award from the group's executive chairman Peter Cowgill.

South Wales storekeeper Elton Jones is celebrating picking up a major national award for his work. For Elton, who runs his own United Carpets and Beds store on Sloper Road, Cardiff, has been voted Franchisee of the Year by the United Carpets Group.

The group – which is currently celebrating its tenth anniversary of becoming a plc - has more than 60 flooring and beds stores across the UK. The award for Elton was announced at the company's annual conference by chief executive Paul Eyre.

"Elton is a well-deserving winner of this hotly-contested award, and the prize reflects his dedication, hard work, commitment and efficiency," he said. "United Carpets are renowned for our excellent customer service and great deals and Elton's store in Cardiff reflects everything that we're about."

Local man Elton took over the franchise of the store several years ago with his wife Elise, and has more than 20 years' experience in the carpet and carpet fitting business.

- United Carpets and Beds is at: Sloper Road, Cardiff, CF11 8AA, and you can call Elton and his team on 02920 383770.

"I think people appreciate the fact that although we have the buying power of a big company behind us, which keeps our prices down, we're very much a local business staffed by local people. We provide a really friendly service that customers like."

Elton is currently stocking his store with the new Spring ranges and some special offers, and says he's delighted to have won the award. "On the awards night I was thrilled but really surprised to win, because there are so many really excellent franchisees at United Carpets," he said. "The award is also shared with my staff – and I'd also like to thank our customers from all over South Wales, who keep coming back and show us a lot of support."

- To find out more about United Carpets Group – including franchise opportunities – visit: www.unitedcarpetsandbeds.com, look for United Carpets on Facebook or follow the company on Twitter @unitedcarpets



MAKING A DIFFERENCE

**LOCAL
NEWSPAPER
WEEK
11-17 MAY**

Sir Ray Tindle: 'THE LOCAL PAPERS WILL LIVE FOR EVER'

SIR RAY TINDEL has spoken of the resilience of the local press industry and his strong belief that local newspapers "will live for ever" – despite the challenges posed by the economic downturn in recent years.

Announcing a new bonus scheme for Tindle Newspapers' staff, Sir Ray pointed to evidence of the strength of the industry in the face of competition from competitors and challenging economic conditions.

Sir Ray (pictured right) said: "Tindle Newspapers is only one group of many that have fought the good fight and shown that really local papers will live for ever."

"We ourselves in these seven years, seven long drab years, have launched 20 new local papers in London and the provinces in an effort to replace lost national revenue and to raise our profile. We are proud of every one of them."

"Our advertisement departments and our circulation departments have fought valiantly to keep up the revenue and the circulation. The whole staff has been marvellous.

"Because of this we have come through these years without borrowing a single penny, without making a single journalist compulsorily redundant and without closing a single main title nor missing a single edition."



Speaking about competition from the internet, Sir Ray (proprietor of The GEM titles), added: "In 1971, many were saying we would be badly affected by the coming of local commercial radio into our towns. Then came a recession, followed by the arrival of free newspapers throughout the UK. This was followed by local commercial television.

"Our finest years, however, were from the mid-1990s to 2008 when we had all these and other competitors hammering away all at the same time for the same pot of revenue."

Ysgol Bro Morgannwg pupils report on the (election) reporters!



The group with S4C News presenter, Bethan Rhys Roberts.

KING SQUARE in Barry was transformed on Monday, April 20, with a massive white pavilion filling the space in front of the library.

Journalists were milling around with cameras at the ready and the rosette-adorned parliamentary

candidates were waiting to discuss their policies with the public.

This was the BBC election tour and in the melee enjoying the excitement were 14 lucky pupils from Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg ready to report on the action.

They interviewed the candidates, questioned the journalists, and chatted with passers-by about their concerns in this area. The students were also interviewed by the BBC and aired their views about future hopes for the country and its politics.

...A wonderful opportunity for any wannabe journalists and politicians!

• The following report was written by

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 21)

ANDREW RT DAVIES AM South Wales Central Region



"Congratulations to the GEM for serving the local community with excellent editorial coverage."

Do you have an issue that you would like to raise with Andrew?

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The Mayor of the Vale of Glamorgan Council
Councillor Howard Hamilton
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community issues and thanks them for
their support during his year of office.



Hoffai Maer Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, y
Cynghorydd Howard Hamilton

longyfarch aelodau staff

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MAKING A DIFFERENCE

LOCAL
NEWSPAPER
WEEK
11-17 MAY

PUPILS' INSIGHT INTO ELECTION COVERAGE



Twm Aled with Dave the security guard.



ABOVE:

Efa Cray, Indeg Evans and Twm Aled. pay the living wage and support young people to get back into work.

Steffan Messenger, from BBC Wales, is encouraging the use of #ineverknew to help young people to understand politics.

He told us: "By using #ineverknew, it helps young people to understand politics and eliminate most of the jargon."

We had an opportunity to use this hashtag to get politicians to answer our questions about their policies and the election in general.

Together with our fellow school reporters, we had time to discuss our future hopes and Tia had the chance to try on a pair of video recording glasses in a technology presentation.

Jack Tweddle and Joseff Nicholas

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

We managed to snag a short interview with Laura, from BBC Wales, and we asked her about the purpose of events like this. She replied: "The importance of today is to hear views from all the candidates in the Vale, so that the public can all decide who they will vote for in the upcoming general election."

We wanted to get two different views from two different politicians; the first was Alun Cairns, representing the Conservative Party. He told us: "Days like this are important on two grounds, the first one being that it allows individual constituents to challenge what the politicians say and, secondly, it allows me to communicate with the community."

We then consulted Chris Elmore of the Labour Party about his plans for the Vale and Wales in general should they be elected this May. He promises that they would increase the minimum wage to £8 an hour, make companies

Jack Tweddle and Joseff Nicholas

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Western Mail	20,007	Paid 80p
Glamorgan Gazette	9,094	Paid 90p
Wales on Sunday	16,060	Paid £1.50

The GEM's weekly figure includes door to door delivery and numerous popular outlets from Penarth to Porthcawl

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Remember - we distribute over 45,000 complimentary copies of **The GEM** throughout the Vale, Bridgend & Porthcawl every week - packed with all the content that makes a community newspaper really worth reading!

Source: www.abc.org.uk

(April 2015)

Heritage bus trips are a hit in Barry!

RIGHT: A 53-year-old AEC Reliance bus which used to be part of the Devon General Grey Cars touring fleet. These coaches had narrow width bodies to negotiate the country lanes in Dartmoor and Exmoor national parks. (Photo by TUDOR THOMAS)

THE CARDIFF TRANSPORT PRESERVATION GROUP opened the doors of its heritage vehicle centre last Sunday at the bus depot in Barry for visitors, and ran free bus trips all day.

The charity group ran some regular favourite buses and among them was the 1964 Guy Arab open top bus that used to be owned by City of Cardiff Transport.

With the heavy rain on Saturday and on Sunday morning it thought it would be kept inside the garage but of course, the sun did come out!

Visitors were treated to trips on several different old buses and luxury coaches - like a former 1968 Neath and Cardiff Luxury Express coach that used to run between Cardiff, Bridgend and Swansea in the 1970s and an older 1962 Devon General Grey Cars touring coach that used to take visitors over Dartmoor and Exmoor in the 1960s.

Mike Taylor,



The open top bus in action outside Morrisons in Barry.
(Photo by Paul Hamley)

chairman of the heritage bus restoration group, said: "The weather looked a bit against us with a wet early morning but the sun came out and everyone who came had a good time.

"It was nice to see local families with children come along, and I was surprised to hear that visitors had come especially for the day to Barry from Yorkshire, Lincolnshire and Kent.

"We are now gearing up for our big event on June 14 when we are expecting lots of classic cars to come along to

Barry Island Festival of Transport".

The day was the first chance the public could see the last bus built in Cardiff in 1951, back after 23 years in South Africa. The next opportunity will be at the group's next open day during the big classic car and bus Festival of Transport in June.

Writer's play receives its premiere...

published writer Brian Roper

Roper said of the play: "This is a serious play about a serious issue which claimed the lives of 435 British service personnel and hundreds of their enemies and which continues to this day".

The play is part of a showcase of new plays being written at the UK's leading centre for creative writing at Swansea University. Centre director Professor David Britton said: "These plays maintain the high standard that we have achieved here over many years and are part of our award-winning output of fiction and poetry."

Annual plant sale
ON May 24, there will be a variety of bedding plants, perennials, annuals and vegetables at the annual plant sale held in Llanmaes Village Hall from 11am-3pm.

There will also be a raffle and cream teas.

All plant donations welcomed. Please bring them along before 11am. For more information, contact Jackie Wright on 07976698325, or visit www.llanmaesonline.com/contactus.

Romilly gets the seal of approval

THE VALE'S LARGEST PRIMARY SCHOOL HAS HAD ITS PERFORMANCE JUDGED TO BE "GOOD" AND ITS FUTURE PROSPECTS "EXCELLENT", BY THE NATIONAL SCHOOL INSPECTORATE ESTYN.

The inspector's report, which was said to make encouraging reading for parents and staff alike, highlights a number of areas of good practice at Romilly Primary and praised the children and the teaching staff.

Pupils are described as being very well behaved and enthusiastic about their learning, while their reading and writing skills are highlighted as "good" and their speaking and listening skills as "very good".

Headteacher Kelvin Law, who also plays a major role in supporting the improvement of other schools across south Wales, welcomed the report, saying: "We are delighted to have received such positive

feedback from Estyn, in particular that the strong commitment of everyone involved with the school has been recognised."

Estyn's report commended the wide range of learning experiences and consistently good quality of teaching offered by the staff and highlighted the rigorous tracking of pupils' progress. It also noted that pupils with additional needs received high quality support.

The governing body was judged to be knowledgeable, well informed and supportive, and acts purposefully as a critical friend.

Following the publication of the report Jennifer Hill, director of learning and skills for the Vale Council, said: "This is yet another good news story for education in the Vale. There are few inspection reports as positive as this and that is a testament to the hard work of Kelvin Law and all of the staff at Romilly Primary School."

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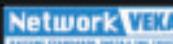
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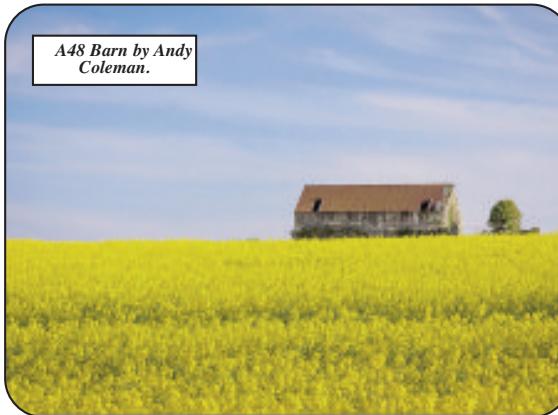


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Hayes 'Island' as you've never seen it before!

A48 Barn by Andy Coleman.



Hayes Island Mooring by Andy Baker.



THIS month, there was something for everyone on offer at the Vale Photographic Club, with one of the most varied programmes seen for a while.

The month started with a talk by Jan Cawley, an experienced judge and past president of the Welsh Photographic Federation with an evening entitled 'What judges look for' great not only for those wishing to enter competitions, but anyone looking for advice to improve their photography.

This was followed by a photo editing skills.

THIS Saturday (May 9) at Bethel Baptist Church Centre, Pontyclun at 10am, Mrs Denise Dickman, a volunteer with Samaritan's Purse, will be recalling her trip last December to Romania, where she witnessed the handing over of the many shoeboxes that were collected on behalf of Operation Christmas Child.

Journey of a shoebox...

Those attending will also be given an update on last year's successful campaign, when 22,499 shoeboxes were checked and sent out from the Llandow warehouse.

Mr Chris Roberts, Samaritan's Purse assistant director of field ministries, will talk about this year's campaign and there will also be a musical interlude from a close harmony singing group.

Free coffee and tea will be served and everyone is welcome to attend.

TMC

ANDY COLEMAN

The month completed with a talk by local member Nick Thornton showing images from his recent trip to Chile and a competition entitled '50 yards from your front door' which really did demonstrate that superb photos can be found literally on your doorstep!

We're also pleased to announce that members Bridget Craddock, Nick Craddock, Mike Davies and Mike Baker all had images accepted into the Welsh Salon, recently opened by Jane Hutt (AM). The exhibition is now open at Barry Library (10am - 4pm) until May 30. Congratulations to all concerned.

For further information on the club, which is open to ages 16 and over (16 - 18-year-olds must be accompanied by an adult), visit our website at www.vale-photographic-club.co.uk, or simply turn up to a club evening - we meet every Friday from September to July at 7:15pm in the Ystradgynwern village hall.

Whether you're looking to develop your skills as a serious photographer, just starting out with a new camera, or simply looking to take better photographs of the kids, you'll be most welcome.

ANDY COLEMAN

Anole lizard by Mark Lunn.

Poor toilet facilities

IWAS in Bridgend shopping recently where both public toilets were locked up and facilities in the bus station are also minimal.

What can it be like taking children there, and for the owners of private premises?

I think that I am right in saying that local authorities have had a statutory duty to provide sanitary facilities for the public for at least 100 years.

Will the Assembly please enforce it?
Robert Hubbard, Monkash.

Wildlife garden

LOUGHER Moor, in Morfa Lane, Llantwit Major, Vale of Glamorgan CF61 2YT will be opening to the public under the National Gardens Scheme later this month.

The wildlife garden comprises ponds and woodlands, and was 30 years in the making – every tree and shrub planted by the owners.

The natural habitat, created out of what was a field of ryegrass is now home to a variety of bird life, flora and fauna.

Opening information: Saturday, May 16 (2pm - 5pm), Sunday, May 17 (2pm - 5.30pm). Admission £3.50; child admitted free. Home-made teas.

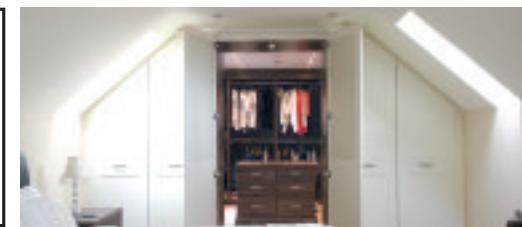
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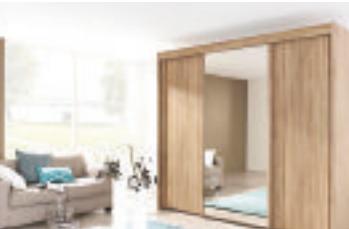
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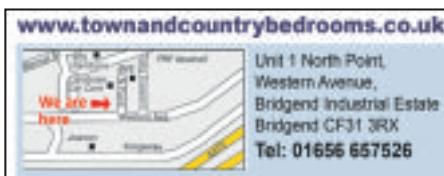
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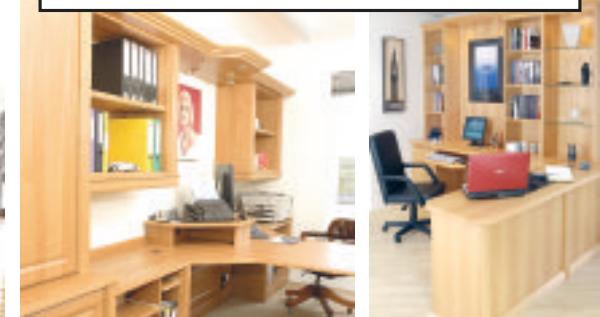


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OFL RENEWABLES are the renewable arm of Oil Facilities Limited, who are headquartered on Vale Business Park, Llandow.

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OFL Renewables have installed almost 200 biomass systems over the last two years.

These systems are particularly suited to the larger residential property or commercial premises.

In the case of the latter, the Government actually pays the householder for the renewable heat generated over a period of

20 years.

OFL Renewables are fully MCS accredited, MCS registered (necessary to claim the RHI), and all the staff are CRB checked.

OFL offer a free of charge survey for potential biomass users.

Full details can be found at www.oflrenewables.com.



Run a large house or commercial premises?

With the Government's RHI scheme for biomass there has never been a better time to invest in renewables. Visit the OFL Renewables web site to find out how the government will pay you (for up to 20 years on commercial installations) to use biomass. Contact your local MCS approved and award winning installer OFL Renewables to investigate how this scheme could benefit you.

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FOCUS ON....

Vale Business Park

LLANDOW, NEAR COWBRIDGE

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE



The Vale Business Park offers a huge variety of services to local people

THE Vale Business Park at Llandow is not easily missed – it stands out on the road between Cowbridge and Llantwit Major – but is easily misunderstood.

Take a quick look and you will see a number of sheds stretching into the distance, and it is easy to jump to the conclusion that it is a base for light industry.

‘Nothing to see here’ – the average retail customer might think – but they would be very wrong!

Experts in a wide variety of trades are busy on the business park – sometimes going out to customers, but often giving a warm welcome to people with a problem that needs solving. A case in point is Mark Edwards, of

Llandow MoTs. Two years ago, his company worked primarily with commercial vehicles, but then he decided to open an MoT bay.

Initially, the company employed two mechanics, but the response has been such that two rapidly became four, and Mark is about to employ a fifth, as customer satisfaction is clearly very high.

Mark told The GEM that word of mouth had been important – together with effective advertising – and that it proved that the Vale Business Park was a great base to work from.

There are so many specialists on the park, from heating and plumbing to home

furnishings, from lawnmowers to printers, from oil suppliers to chimney stacks – and from motor mechanics to joinery companies.

A drive around the business park (keep a note pad handy) can save you a trip much further afield.

The Government is always talking about the importance of SMEs (that's Small and Medium Enterprises to the rest of us) and on the Vale Business Park that is just what you will find – businesses that are small enough to value their customer, and enterprising enough to make a difference!

PHILIP IRWIN

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Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act, 1990
Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012

**Affecting setting of a Listed Building/
Cais (au) sy'n effeithio ar leoliad Adeilad Rhestredig**

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2015/00475/FUL
Proposal/Cynnig: Erection of a single storey timber shed less than 2.5 metres in height and with a floor area less than 15 square metres
Location/Lleoliad: 7, Pwll y Min Crescent, Peterston Super Ely
Listed Building:/
Adeilad Rhestredig Affecting 7, Pwll y Min Crescent, Grade II

**Application(s) of General Interest/
Ceisiadau o Diddordeb Cyffredinol**

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2015/00441/RG3
Proposal/Cynnig: Replacing existing 1FE Primary School with a new 2FE Primary School (Inc. Nursery). Providing Secondary School with approx 5400m² of new build accommodation and refurbishing the main existing along Ham Lane. Remaining buildings will be demolished to make way for new 3G Pitch and MUGA along with associated car parking and landscaping.
Location/Lleoliad: Llanilltud Fawr/Llantwit Major Primary and Infant Schools, Ham Lane East, Llantwit Major

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2015/00422/FUL
Proposal/Cynnig: Installation of a glasshouse, packing building, accommodation and welfare facilities
Location/Lleoliad: Springfield Nurseries, Llandow

**Application(s) with Environmental Statement/
Cais (au) gyda Datganiad Amgylcheddol**

**NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 8
Proposed development at
Wimborne Road, Barry.**

I give notice that Raymond Brown Minerals & Recycling Ltd is applying to The Vale of Glamorgan Council for Planning Permission to Facility for the recycling of incinerator bottom ash (IBA) to produce aggregates (IBAA) and the recovery of metals.

The proposal has been submitted with an environmental statement which can be inspected at the address given below. Members of the public may obtain copies of the environmental statement at a charge of £100.00 for a paper copy or free of charge for CD copy from Stephen Bowley Planning Consultancy, Ferndale, Tiddington, Thame, Oxfordshire, OX9 2LQ so long as stocks last.

Members of the public may inspect copies of:

- The application.
- The plans.
- The environmental statement.
- Other documents submitted with the application.

at the address given below during all reasonable hours until 28 May, 2015.

Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should write to the Head of Planning and Transportation at the address given below by 28 May 2015 quoting reference 2015/00360/FUL.

HYSBYSIAD O DAN ERTHYGL 8

**Datblygiad arfaethedig yn
Wimborne Road, Barry**

Hysbysir trwy hyn Raymond Brown Minerals & Recycling Ltd n gwneud cais i Gyngor Bro Morgannwg am Ganiatâd Cynllunio ar gyfe Aggregates for the recycling of incinerator bottom ash (IBA) to produce aggregates (IBAA) and the recovery of metals.

Cafodd y cynnig ei gyflwyno gyda datganiad amgylcheddol sydd ar gael i'w ddarllen yn y cyfeiriad isod. Caiff aerolau o'r cyhoedd brynu copiâu o'r datganiad am £100.00 for a paper copy or free of charge for CD copy from Stephen Bowley Planning Consultancy, Ferndale, Tiddington, Thame, Oxfordshire, OX9 2LQ tra bydd y stoc ar gael.

Caiff aerolau o'r cyhoedd hefyd ddarllen copiâu o'r:

- cais;
- cylluniau;
- datganiad amgylcheddol;
- dogfennau eraill a gyflwynwyd gyda'r cais,

yn y cyfeiriad isod yn ystod oriau rhesymau tan 28 May, 2015.

Dylai unrhyw un sydd am wneud sylwadau ar y cais ysgrifennu at Bennaeth Cynllunio a Chludiant y cyngor (gwelwch y dudalen ar waelod y dudalen) erbyn 28 May 2015 an ddifynnu'r cyfeirnod 2015/00360/FUL.

Details may be inspected for 21 days at the address given below, or via <http://vogonline.planning-register.co.uk/>

Gall manylion eu harchwilio am 21 diwrnod yn y cyfeiriad a roddir isod, neu drwy <http://vogonline.planning-register.co.uk/>

Dated / Dydiedig: 7 May, 2015

M. Goldsworthy
Operational Manager Development & Building Control,
Vale of Glamorgan Council, Dock Office, Barry. CF63 4RT

Four-legged pals centre stage at Victoria Park!

**PHOTOGRAPHS by
ANGELA MAGEE**
TEL: 07540 095908

FOUR-legged friends of all shapes and sizes were thrilled to get along to the Seventh Annual Charity Fun Dog Show at Victoria Park in Barry, on Sunday, May 3.

Ten 'classes' were held including 'fastest', 'waggiest tail' and 'precious puppies'. There were lots of stalls too – funds raised go to animal charities.

As you can see from local photographer Angela Magee's images, the event was blessed with sunshine, and the dogs loved being the centre of attention.



*ABOVE:
German Shepherd Harley is 14 weeks old
and came with his owners Dan and
Nicola of South Wales Dog Walking Club.*



ABOVE: Buffy, a terrier mix, with Bracken, a chocolate springadore.



*ABOVE:
James Gibbs with Dotty and Livvy.*



*ABOVE:
Alfy, the sprollie,
and Skoobi, a
lurcher cross –
they both came
with their owner
Rebecca.*



*ABOVE:
Jackson the miniature dachshund with
Huw Jones and Jo John.*



*ABOVE:
Buffy, a terrier mix, with Bracken,
a chocolate springadore.*



*ABOVE:
Mona's missing one of her back legs,
but that doesn't hold her back in the slightest.*



*ABOVE:
Jade with Oreo, a gorgeous
14-week-old cockapoo.*



*ABOVE:
Dexter, just six weeks old,
was at his first
dog show.*



*ABOVE:
Lois the Boxer – what
a gorgeous face!*



*ABOVE:
Mr Snuffles the
Chihuahua.*



*ABOVE:
Labrador Peppa
came with
owner Stacie Ivory.*

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Lakeside, The Knap, Barry - £545,000
Stunning four double bedroom detached property with landscaped garden, outbuilding and carport. Extended and completely refurbished offering spacious accommodation. Three minutes walk to seafront, enjoying panoramic views over the Knap, Bristol Channel and English. NO CHAIN. EPC rating: C



Ffordd Cwm Ciddy, Woodland Heights, Barry - £275,000
Four/five bedroom detached split level residence. Generous rear garden with areas laid to patio, decking and lawn. Driveway and Single garage. Close to Portkerry Country Park and beach and all local amenities. Ideal family home. EPC rating: D.



Maes Glas, Woodlands Rise, Barry - £249,950
Four bedroom detached property situated within the West end of Barry. Accommodation Comprising: Lounge. Dining area. Sitting room. Kitchen. Utility room. Conservatory. Downstairs w/c. Family bathroom and en suite shower room to master bedroom. UPVC d/g. GCH. Enclosed rear garden. Driveway. EPC rating: D.



Churchfields, Barry - £225,000
Four bedroom detached property situated within the East end of Barry. Comprising: Lounge. Dining room. Modern fitted kitchen. Utility room. Downstairs w/c. Bathroom and en suite shower room. Gardens to front and rear. Garage and generous Driveway. EPC rating: D.



Blackberry Drive, Barry - £202,950
Four bedroom detached property situated in a cul-de-sac location towards the West end of Barry. Accommodation: Hallway. Downstairs w/c. Two reception rooms. Kitchen/breakfast room. Conservatory. Family bathroom and en suite shower room to master bedroom. UPVC double glazing. GCH. Enclosed rear garden. Off road parking. EPC rating: D.



Westward Rise, Garden Suburb, Barry - £195,000
Three bedroom semi detached property. Comprising: Hallway. Two reception rooms. Kitchen. Bathrooms. Enclosed rear garden. Driveway. In need of updating. Overlooking Portkerry Woods.



Westward Rise, Garden Suburb, Barry - £195,000
Three bedroom semi detached property situated in the West end of Barry. Comprising: Hallway. Two reception rooms. Kitchen. Lean-to summer room. Bathroom and separate w/c. Gardens to front and rear. Driveway and Garage. In need of updating. EPC rating: D.



12 Southesk Place, Barry - £179,950
Three bedroom semi detached property situated in the West end of Barry. Comprising: Porch. Hallway. Lounge. Dining Room. Kitchen. Lean-to conservatory. Downstairs utility w/c. Bathroom. Enclosed forecourt and rear garden. EPC rating: B.



40 Oxford Street, Barry - £159,950
Two bedroom semi detached property situated in the West end of Barry. Comprising: Hallway. Downstairs w/c. Living room. Kitchen/dining room. Lounge. Enclosed front and rear gardens. Double garage/workshop. UPVC d/g. GCH. EPC rating: D.



33 Enfield Drive, Hunters Ridge, Barry - £154,950
Three bedroom semi detached property in North Barry. Comprising: Porch. Hallway. Lounge. Dining room. Kitchen. Conservatory. Bathroom. UPVC double glazing. Gas central heating. Generous enclosed rear garden. Driveway. Single garage. EPC rating: D.



Woodham Close, Barry - £136,950
Three bedroom semi detached property situated towards North Barry. Comprising: Lounge. Kitchen. Dining room. Enclosed front and rear gardens. Detached single garage. UPVC double glazing. GCH. EPC rating: D.

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Queen Street, Barry - £120,000
Two double bedroom property in the West end of Barry. Comprising: Porch. Lounge. Dining room. Kitchen. Small utility room and downstairs w/c. Bathroom. Rear garden. UPVC d/g. GCH. EPC rating: D.



Llanmead Gardens, Rhoose - £184,950
Three bedroom detached residence. Comprising: Hallway. Living room. Kitchen/breakfast room. Downstairs w/c. Bathrooms. En suite shower room to master bedroom. UPVC d/g. GCH. Enclosed rear garden. Driveway and single garage. EPC rating: C.



Dyffryn Place, Barry - £225,000
RARE TO THE MARKET Well presented three bedroom semi detached in a cul de sac location within North Barry. Comprising: Lounge. Kitchen. Dining room. Modern fitted kitchen with all appliances to remain. Lean-to summer room. Downstairs w/c. Family bathroom. UPVC d/g. GCH. Gardens to front and rear. Driveway. Single garage. EPC rating: D.



Dovey Close, Cwm Talwg, Barry - £169,950
Well presented two bedroom link detached property in the West end of Barry. Comprising: Porch. Hall. Lounge. Kitchen/dining room. Conservatory. Modern white bathroom suite. UPVC d/g. GCH. Enclosed front and rear gardens. Driveway and Garage. EPC rating: D.



Tynewydd Road, Barry - £167,500
Three bedroom semi detached property situated in the heart of Barry. Comprising: Open porch. Hallway. Two reception rooms. Modern fitted kitchen. Rear porch. First floor bathroom. UPVC double glazing. Gas central heating. Enclosed forecourt and rear garden. NO CHAIN.



Wenveo Terrace, Barry - £152,500
Three bedroom terrace property situated in the West end of Barry. Comprising: Hallway. Lounge. Dining room. Summer room. Kitchen. Utility area. White bathroom suite. UPVC d/g. GCH. Forecourt and rear garden. EPC rating: D.



North Walk, Barry - £149,950
Well presented two double bedroom semi detached property on a corner plot in the North of Barry. Comprising: Porch. Hallway. Lounge. Kitchen/dining room. Conservatory. Wet room to ground floor. Shower room to first floor. UPVC d/g. GCH. Wrap around gardens. Gated driveway. EPC rating: D.



Kathleen Street, Barry - £141,500
Extended, four bedroom terrace property situated in the West end of Barry. Comprising: Hallway. Lounge. Kitchen/Breakfast Room. Utility/shower room. UPVC d/g. GCH. Enclosed rear garden. EPC rating: D.



Kingsland Crescent, Barry - £119,950
Three bedroom mid terrace property situated in the heart of Barry. Comprising: Porch. Hallway. Lounge/sitting room. Kitchen. Dining room. Summer room. Bathroom to first floor. Partial UPVC double glazing. GCH. Enclosed forecourt and rear garden. NO CHAIN. EPC rating: D.



Beaconsfield, Romilly Road, Barry - £107,950
Two bedroom maisonette with views across the Waterfront, Bristol Channel and Somerset coastline. Comprising: Porch. Hallway. Living room. Kitchen/breakfast room. Shower room. UPVC d/g. GCH. Garage nearby in a block. NO CHAIN. EPC rating: E.



Longacre Close, Barry - £105,000
Two bedroom link property situated on the Glenbrook development. Comprising: Open plan kitchen/living room. Bathroom. UPVC d/g. GCH. Rear garden. Parking for one vehicle. EPC rating: C.



David Street, Barry - £99,950
RENOVATED THROUGHOUT Two double bedroom mid terrace within the East end of Barry. Comprising: Inner porch. Hallway. Living room. Newly installed kitchen and ground floor bathroom. UPVC d/g. GCH. Enclosed, low maintenance rear garden. NO CHAIN. EPC rating: D.

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Who wants to build what, and where?

Mr Phillip Young – **Land at Ynyston, Leckwith** – Development creating floorspace of 125 sq m on agricultural land for agricultural purposes.

Mrs Sarah Lavender – **Land at Maes y Fro, Llysworney** – To erect a polytunnel measuring 16ft x 24 ft.

Waverley Care Centre – **122 Plymouth Road, Penarth** – Demolition of the single storey reception roof and the erection of a new first floor, including associated enabling work.

Mr Mohammed Sidiqdi – **Deri Sant, Station Road West, Wenvoe** – Erection of a timber fence around the eastern aspect of the property adjacent to the vehicle exit gate.

Bellway Homes – **The Television Centre, access to ITV Wales Television Studios, Culverhouse Cross** – Variation of condition 7 of 2013/01152/OUT; demolition of existing buildings and redevelopment of site for residential purposes.

Mr Rod Young – **3 Craig yr Eos, Ogmore By Sea** – Proposed garage with living accommodation above ref 2014/01117/FUL.

Mr David Meaden – **14 Llandaff Close, Penarth** – Single storey extension to rear of the property, roof angle adjusted to rear of property to allow for rooms within loft area, new flat roof porch. Walls to be raised to existing single storey front bedroom to allow for new loft conversion above. Dormers to be formed within the roof.

Mr Rob Ashman – **4 Voss Park Close, Llantwit Major** – Existing conservatory removed new single storey rear extension.

Mr Sid Gautam – **14 Clinton Road, Penarth** – Double extension to the rear including a basement with a single storey extension to the side.

Mrs Aisha Wardell – **38 Victoria Road, Penarth** – Proposed single storey utility room side extension and increased area of patio, bi-fold doors to the rear elevation.

Mrs Kate Rees – **15 Westbourne Road, Penarth** – New driveway on the front and vehicle cross-over. Miss Francesca Sanders – **Land at St Johns Well, St Athan** – Erection of 100 two, three and four bedroom houses and associated works.

Beechwood College – **Hayes Road, Sully** – Erection of three temporary portable buildings; Retention of three demountable units.

Five park Roade Ltd – **5 Park Road, Barry** – Demolition of single storey storage building to rear and conservatory to side. Conversion and extension of existing dwelling to provide six self contained flats and provision of new vehicular access with associated parking and amenity areas.

Newydd Housing Association – **Former Magistrates' Court, Thompson Street, Barry** – Amendment to permission 2012/01114/FUL; change from 6 x 3 bed houses, 33 x 2 bed flats and 13 x 1 bed flat to 6 x 3 bed houses, 32 x 2 bed flats and 14 x 1 bed flats.

Mr and Mrs Kempton – **35 Cornerswell Road, Penarth** – Reconstruction of part of the rear of the property in poor repair.

Mr D Harding – **15 Hawthorn Avenue, Penarth** – Proposed ground floor bedroom, sitting area and shower room.

Mr and Mrs Michael Pratt – **Glen View, 99 Penlan Road, Llandough** – Construction of new two storey, four bedroom detached house in garden of existing residential dwelling house.

Mr and Mrs Michael Hammett – **Hafod y Gan, Ogmore Road, Ewenny** – Raising of ridge height with accommodation to roof, ground floor windows and internal modifications.

Mr Philip Hammer – **Y Ffermdy Gwyn, Heol St Cattwg, Pendoylan** – Proposed glazed porch and veranda to side entrance.

Raymond Brown Minerals and Recycling Ltd – **Wimbourne Road, Barry** – Facility for the

recycling of incinerator bottom ash (IBA) to produce aggregates (IBAA) and the recovery of metals.

Stavrakis Consultants – **Former Friends Lodge, Hayes Point, Sully** – Conversion and refurbishment of former lodge building to a three bedroom bungalow.

Mr J Taylor – **White Gables, B4268 Llysworney to Pentre Meyrick boundary, Llysworney** – To replace existing extension with a uPVC white conservatory on the rear of the property.

Mr Rory McLaggan – **Tymaen Barns, near Ewenny** – Proposed to take up and remove a section of the existing cobbled floor in barn and concrete.

Mr Mike Harris – **46 Grove Terrace, Penarth** – Two storey rear extension.

Mr Jason Price – **Site known as West Pond, Barry Waterfront, Barry** – Amendment to layout as permitted by applications 2009/00946/OUT and 2012/00773/EAR including changes in house type, alteration to affordable housing provision and increase in number of dwellings up to 139.

Anne Brown – **Llangan Primary School, Llangan** – Demolition of an existing demountable unit and relocated replacement double demountable unit.

Mr John Homfray – **Disused weighbridge and office, Llynwihel Farm, Cowbridge** – Construction of a detached laundry room and office for use in connection with the existing un-catered hostel accommodation together with associated engineering and other operations.

Mr J McCarthy – **Tynwau Farm, Newton** – Single storey extensions to front and rear of existing single storey dwelling (resubmission of application reference 214/00111/FUL).

Mr A Jones – **Brook Farm, Llanmaes** – Amendments of site boundaries and location of dwelling within the site, new gazebo structure adjacent to swimming pool, and replacement storage building in lieu of an existing dilapidated railway carriage, house animal feed and small livestock/poultry.

Insite Poster Properties – **Unit E1, Westpoint Industrial Estate, Cardiff** – Erection of free standing advertising structure comprising two 12m x 3m LED digital displays.

Mr Owen Bull – **Torridon, 3 Cefn Mount, Dinas Powys** – Two storey rear extension for new ground floor kitchen and first floor bedrooms and family bathroom. Single storey rear extension for games room.

Mr Timothy Whinney – **28 Victoria Road, Penarth** – Block paving to drive and footpath.

Mr Roger Edwards – **Amelia Trust Farm, Five Mile Lane, Barry** – Glasshouse.

Mr Geraint Spargo – **Bovertown Grange, Mill Road, Bovertown** – Amendment to 2014/00694/FUL; remove higher level of glass above doors and replace with block and render to match existing building.

Mr Steve Bussell – **26 Cilgant y Meillion, Rhoose Point, Rhoose** – Construction of a single storey rear extension and conversion of garage.

Mr Adrian Chilcott – **38 Westward Rise, Barry** – Single storey rear extension to accommodate new living area (lounge and dining room).

Mr Christian Ogden – **14 Victoria Square, Penarth** – Proposed demolition of existing single storey rear extension, erection of new single storey side extension at the rear, alterations to existing detached garage, minor internal and external works.

K F Lee Executors – **Land at Cardiff Road/Cross Common Road, Dinas Powys** – Outline application for residential development, together with alignment of initial section of highway linking Cardiff Road and Cross Common Road.

Simon and Clare Tomlinson – **23 Cardigan Close, Dinas Powys** – Single storey rear domestic extension.

Mr Keith Scott – **3 Greenmeadow Close, Dinas Powys** – Single storey rear extension, loft conversion and roof alterations.

Mr David Jones – **Sunnycroft, College Street, Llantwit Major** – Retention of garage and car port.

Mrs Susan Sullivan – **24 Seaview Place, Llantwit Major** – Retention of double garage.

Mrs Geraldine Ridout – **53 Plas Taliesin, Portway Marina, Penarth** – Proposed single storey extension to kitchen, new balcony and windows. Project previously approved, minor amendment to front elevation windows only.

Casteland Renewal Area Team – **238 Holton Road, Barry** – Take down the elevations to Holton Road and Lower Morel Street and rebuild.

Mr Glyn Jones – **St Johns Well, St Athan** – Removal of condition nos 22, 23 and 24.

BRYNHILL GOLF CLUB RESULTS

THE latest competition started their season with a home results at Brynhill Golf Club are as follows:

Barry and District News Cup: Winners, Andy Chick and Michael Murray, nett 51.

The seniors section, under the captaincy of Mr Ralph Thomas, all the best for the coming season as the senior section

captain.

The Daily Mail Foursome pairing of John Windle and Clive Cureton were successful in the first two rounds, beating Dinas Powys and St Andrews Major and we wish them well in the next round away to Wenvoe Castle.

JK

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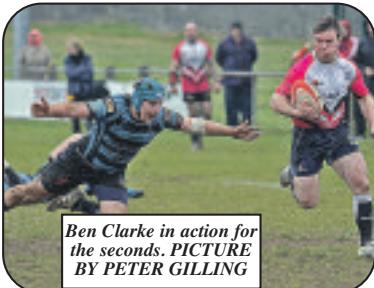
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Kenfig Hill Seconds disappoint in play-off



Ben Clarke in action for the seconds. PICTURE BY PETER GILLING

FOR the first 20 minutes of this league play-off semi-final between Kenfig Hill seconds and Llanharan seconds, there was no score with both sides seemingly equally matched.

For the rest of the game, however, Llanharan, with outside half Scott Jones at the heart of everything, controlled things. It became a poor performance by the Mules that included missed tackles, fumbles in the normally excellent backline and failed line-outs.

The Llanharan number 6 Owain Howe seemed to win the lineouts on his own and left winger Dan Thorne was difficult to stop. Eventually Kenfig Hill fought back with a couple of tries for wing Ben Clarke and centre Matthew Burnell but it was too little too late, the final score 25-10.

KENFIG HILL YOUTH 18 PORTHCAWL YOUTH 5

Congratulations the Mules' youth team who gained a hard fought victory over Porthcawl youth in the final of the Bridgend & District Plate competition.

The match was played at Maesteg RFC's ground and from the outset the Mules forwards just edged their bigger

opponents.

The game was closely fought throughout but the Mules had a better tactical kicking game and also took their few chances when they arose, including an eye-catching individual try from scrum half Connor Tantum who broke blind from a scrum 30 yards out to score in the corner. Porthcawl replied with a try wide out with the final move of the game. DHD

A NEW KIT FOR THE PENCOED UNDER-10S



ABOVE: Pencoed under-10s celebrate their new kit, while BELOW: The team in action. PICTURES BY JULIE HANCOCK



PENCOED RFC under-10s received a welcome boost this weekend ahead of the ever popular Festival of Mini Rugby at Pencoed Rugby Club.

The team, who train at the club and at Pencoed College, were provided with new kit courtesy of ITCS. The award-winning Bridgend-based company provide support and managed maintenance services for businesses and individuals across south

Wales and the west.

Technical director Richard Deere said: "It's great to be able to help a team like this. The enthusiasm and passion the boys have for the game is infectious. We feel like a part of the team too."

Coach Dafydd Owen added: "We are incredibly grateful for the generosity of ITCS. Mini rugby teams everywhere rely on the kindness of others to function. It's fantastic to have them on board."

JH

Men bowlers win in the cup

AFTER playing friendlies during April, Llantwit Major mens bowlers commenced with the serious stuff on Saturday when they played Cefn Cribwr in the first round of the Carruthers Cup.

On a miserable day, Llantwit came out on top winning on all rinks, 89-49 shots. Graham Jones' rink started slowly, being behind until the eighth end when they took the lead which they held for the remainder of the game, a good win by four shots.

Steve Booker's rink made an amazing comeback after struggling to match their opponents up to the 13th end Llantwit then hit a purple patch, winning all but one of the last eight ends to win by seven shots.

Charles Hiscock's rink, Llantwit's strongest four on paper, had a close match up to the ninth end with Richard George playing well. Llantwit went ahead, winning the last five ends without reply to win by 11 shots.

Neville Young's rink were on top from the start with all the rink combining well with some excellent bowling to win comfortably by 16 shots.

NY

to score his first try of the season. Shortly after, it was evident to all the spectators that the Sports were far the superior side to Burnham. This was backed up by the clinical nature of the Sports performance when Jamie Richards finished off a strong Sports run to increase the Sports lead to 12 points.

It was now clear to see that the Sports had rattled Burnham as they made a panic kick to touch which only went a short distance to touch. The Sports then punished the Burnham defence from the first whistle and it was clear to see that the fun the boys were having together on tour, reflected in their unpressured and exciting brand of rugby.

The Sports made a dominant start to the match and had all the early territory which set up the Sports for the duration of the game. It did not take long for the Sports to convert this constant pressure into points when second row Aled Steele crossed the line from a short distance

increased their first half lead to 33 points thanks to the captain Matthew Biggs, who received the ball at pace off the back of some effective passing by the Sports.

The Sports soon had to change tack and show their defensive qualities for a spell as Burnham eventually found their way into the Sports' 22.

Burnham did look more confident in attack than they did in defence but the resilient nature of the Sports defence still outweighed the attacking threat from Burnham.

However, normal service soon resumed as the Sports scored a sixth first half try. This try was simple but effective as the ball was played along the backline to winger Brad Richards who scored a converted try.

After these three early tries, Burnham were well and truly overpowered and out-thought by the Sports and this was epitomised by flanker Joe Davis who broke through the Burnham defensive line from the halfway line to run in unopposed to score under the posts.

The Sports soon

increased their first half performance because they did not take their feet off the gas even though they had basically already won the game in the first half.

The first of the Sports' five second half tries was set up by prop Theo Worrall who made a superb fast and powerful run to then reward Matthew Biggs for his excellent support play by passing him the ball to score to the left of the posts.

Overall, the Sports enjoyed a successful tour both on and off the pitch and came away with the prize of recording their highest win - well done all!

try from Number 8 Calum Reape who has now scored three tries in three games. This try came as a result of the Sports attacking in numbers as some great offloading culminated in Calum scoring the Sports' eighth try of the game.

Yet, Burnham did not give up and were rewarded with a consolation try for their efforts as a consequence of the Sports failing to secure a dangerous kick over the top.

But this try did not worry the Sports one bit as they hit back almost immediately as Aled Steele showed good awareness to spot a gap in the Burnham defence to score to the right of the posts.

The Sports were still hungry to score some more points and Drew Price brought up the 10th try of the day for the Sports by scoring in the corner.

The Sports scored again in the last minute through scrum half Jamie Richards, who made a surging run to score to the right of the posts.

For many, the highlight of the tour came in the last play of the game when hooker Lewis Morgan converted the try from some distance to seal a massive 67-5 victory for the Sports.

Overall, the Sports enjoyed a successful tour both on and off the pitch and came away with the prize of recording their highest win - well done all!



Lee Williams leads the successful youth team. PICTURE BY JOHN HYDE

Latest news from the Bridgend bridge club



The winners of the John Raymond Transport Cup, left to right - Dave Reed, John Raymond presenting the trophy, Liam Sheridan, Glenda Roberts and Jim Hume.

THE annual event for the John Raymond Transport Cup took place on Friday, May 1.

Many congratulations are offered to Glenda Roberts, Liam Sheridan, Jim Hume and Dave Reed who emerged as eventual victors of the keenly contested teams competition.

The results for the rest of the week are:

Wednesday, April 29, teams event: 1st Marjorie Morris, Bill Turner, Rob Forman and Alan Heath, 2nd Andy Robertson, David Newman, Simon and Debbie Richards, 3rd Irene Thomas, Graham Jones, Vida Halford and Glyn Williams.

Thursday, April 30: 1st Frances Robertson and Stuart Davies, 2nd Frances Heslin and Dee Finch, 3rd Rosalie Clode and Arthur Harvey. Winners on handicap Frances Heslin

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Public Notice

LICENSING ACT 2003

To whom it may concern:
I/W, Alicia Maze, Lesley Morris, do hereby give notice that we have applied to the Licensing Authority, Vale of Glamorgan Council for the grant of a premises licence at:

12 Bron-Y-Mor, Barry, CF62 6SW known as Romillys Cafe Shop.

The application is for a new premises licence to sell alcohol on the premises.

Opening hours:
Mon-Sun 08.00-23.00.
Sale of alcohol
Mon-Sun 08.00-22.30.

Any persons wishing to make representations to this application may do so by writing to Licensing Department, Vale of Glamorgan Council Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry, CF63 4RU not later than 28 days after the date of this notice.

Representations received after this date will not be considered. A copy of the Application can be viewed at the Civic Offices during normal office hours.

It is an offence, knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with this application, the maximum fine on summary conviction being £5,000.

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Hours of work between 16 to 20 hours per week to be agreed upon successful application.
Deadline for applications 14th May 2015, please email CV along with covering letter to Finance@cardiffaviation.com

Cowbridge & Western Vale Group Practice Vacancy:

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Birthdays

Happy 19th Birthday
7th May To our beautiful granddaughter Hannah Sage Love you loads Thank you for all your help. Nannie & Grandad xx

Happy 19th Birthday
19 Hannah Sage on 7th May Love Mum, Steve, Andrew, Emily & Faye xxx

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Congratulations on your 18th Birthday
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Family Notices

GATHERIDGE (NEE DAWES) Margaret Joan (Joan)

Peacefully at Barry Hospital on 30th April 2015, Joan aged 94 years. Former school teacher at St Helens School, Barry. Beloved wife of the late Doug, much loved Mum of Monica and son in law John, cherised nan to Chris, Phil, Jennie, Richard and Vicki. Great Nan to Sam and Sophia, also a loved sister and sister in law to Bernadette and Penny and loved Aunt to all her Nieces and Neophews. Resting at A G Adams & Son Funeral Home until being received into St Helens Church on Wednesday, 13th May 2015 at 3pm. Requiem Mass to take place on Thursday, 4th May at 10am followed by Interment at Barry Cemetery. Flowers may be sent to the funeral home.

FARTHING Lillian Florence Grace
Suddenly and peacefully on April 29 at Island View Care Home, Lillian Florence Grace aged 93 years of Barry. Beloved sister of the late Raymond, Edna, Viv, Derek and Leslie.
Grace will be sadly missed by all of her family and friends.
Resting at AG Adams & Son funeral home, Gladstone Road, Barry. Funeral service at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road East, Barry where family and friends please meet at 1pm on Tuesday, May 12. Family flowers only, if desired donations may be handed to the funeral director after the funeral for NSPCC.

DAVIES Iris

Peacefully on April 25 at Royal United Hospital, Bath, Iris in her 95th year, formerly of Colcot Road, Barry. Beloved wife of the late Tom Rees Davies, dearly loved mother of Kevin and Susan, much loved mother-in-law, grandmother and great grandmother.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W. James & Sons, Ffommor, Funeral Friday May 8, service and cremation 3pm at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry. Family flowers only to funeral home, donations if desired to Alzheimers Research UK c/o J W James, 11 Ffommor Road, Rhoose, CF26 3DZ.

THOMAS (nee Clemo) Maureen (Mo)

Peacefully on the 1st May 2015 at the University Hospital of Wales, Mo beloved wife of John, dearly loved mother of Helen and Rachel, wonderful mother-in-law to John and Adam, much loved Nan of Sophie, Jess, Ellie, Scott and Curtis, dear sister of Gareth and the late Neil (Ernie) Clemo.

Resting at James Summers & Son, until the service in the Penallt Chapel, Thornhill Crematorium on Tuesday, 12th May 2015 at 2pm. Family flowers only please by family request. Donations if so desired to Macmillan Breast Cancer, donation box will be at the service. She will be sadly missed by all.

Rest in Peace. God Bless.

HORSEY Alan

Pauline, Julian and Angharad would like to thank their wonderful family, friends and neighbours for their support at this sad time. Also, thanks to Heather for the lovely service and Thomas Brothers Funeral Directors.

MORTIMER-BROWN Jonquil Amanda

Passed away on 25th April 2015 at the Heath Hospital. The cremation will take place on 8th May 2015 at 12 noon at the Barry crematorium. No flowers please, but donations to Macmillan Nurses would be appreciated.

KERSLAKE Malcolm Edward

Who sadly passed away on the 23rd April. To a wonderful brother, brother-in-law and uncle. Your life was a blessing, your memory a treasure, you're loved beyond words, and missed beyond measure. "Rest in peace"

From all your loving family

SHORT

Christopher Albert (Chris)

Peacefully on May 2 at The Barry Hospital, Christopher Albert (Chris) of Barry. A loving father of Oliver and Sy. Chris will be sadly missed by all of his family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams & Son Funeral Home Gladstone Road, Barry, until the funeral on Tuesday, May 12 service and committal at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road East, Barry where family and friends please meet 4pm. Family flowers only, if desired donations may be handed to the funeral director after the funeral for cystic fibrosis.

Anniversaries

David & Tina Simpson

Congratulations on your Golden Wedding Anniversary

Love always from all the family xxx

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Cowbridge under-14s star in festival!

LAST weekend, Cowbridge under-14s enjoyed a successful May Day bank holiday tour.

Nineteen lads and 16 dads made the trip to Barnstaple for one of the largest mini and junior tournaments in the UK. The West Coast festival of rugby hosts over 4,000 kids, ranging from under-7s to under-15s. Cowbridge were placed in a group of four, and first up was Chelmsford. Cowbridge got off to a flying start with a convincing 30-0 win. Dan O'Sullivan started the scoring with a well-executed backs move from an attacking scrum just outside Chelmsford 22.

Next Jack Dixon gathered a clearing kick just on the Chelmsford 10 metre line. Dixon set off on an amazing run resulting in him beating six Chelmsford defenders to score under the posts. From the kick off Jack Little gathered the ball and set Reuben Williams off for a length of the field solo try. Cowbridge scored three more tries in the second half. O'Sullivan scored his second try of the game following a quick tap penalty taken by Ioan Williams. O'Sullivan quickly got his hat-trick try, when he pounced on a loose pass by the Chelmsford scrum half following some great pressure from Iestyn Fenn.

Cowbridge's final try of the game was created by R. Williams, who passed to Rowan Allin who finished the try without hand being laid upon him. Next up were Builth Wells. The teams had recently played each other in the Blues Cup quarter final, which Cowbridge won 15-0. This game was no different, resulting in another 15-0 victory for Cowbridge.

First up, R. Williams burst through the Builth midfield to score under the posts. Then Dixon finished off a slick backs move to score out wide, after receiving a superb pass from Iwan Price-Thomas. Finally, Allin scored the try of the game following an impressive 10-metre pass from behind his back by R. Williams.

Cowbridge's third and last game of the day was against Sevenoaks. With the scores level at 0-0 at halftime, the second half saw E. Thomas cross the line. He showed great handling skills by catching the ball with one hand before side stepping his way to the line.

The second try of the game came via Dixon, who set off on another one of his fantastic, menacing runs. Dixon side-stepped three before out pacing the covering defence to score his third

try of the day.

The final try of the game was scored by H. Ridge, who intercepted a pass from the Sevenoaks scrum half after some great defensive pressure from Ben Jones the Cowbridge open-side flanker. Final score Sevenoaks 0, Cowbridge 15.

As a result of their day one performance Cowbridge were now into the cup competition on day two.

First up, Fairwater, Cardiff. Just as the game started the heavens opened and the boys had to adapt to playing a different type of rugby against an aggressive Fairwater pack.

With numerous interruptions from the referee the boys struggled to get their game going. After a fractious start, Allin scored his third try of the tournament finishing off a great backs move to score in the far right hand corner.

With the game entering the final stages of the first half, O'Sullivan burst through the Fairwater midfield to score his fifth try of the tournament.

As the game entered its final quarter, Iwan Price-Thomas crossed out wide on the left following a powerful run by Luke Connor R. Williams finished off the Cowbridge scoring when he kicked out of a tackle by the Fairwater centre.

Fairwater did not let their heads drop and got a try of their own with the very last move of the game. This was the first try Cowbridge had conceded during the tournament, the game ending Fairwater 5, Cowbridge 20.

In the final game of the tournament, Cowbridge faced local rivals, Kenfig Hill.

Cowbridge opened the scoring with a well-executed tap penalty move. I. Williams passed to Luke Connor, who showed great power to force himself over the Kenfig Hill line.

Kenfig came straight back and levelled the game. From a drop out 22, the Kenfig Hill centre ran the ball back the length of the field, beating six Cowbridge defenders in the process.

The boys showed great team spirit and courage to fight their way back into the game.

At a line-out, Little stole the ball and the backs then put together a great handling move to put Dylan Hughes over for his first try of the season.

In the closing minutes Cowbridge showed incredible team spirit and defensive work rate, to thwart Kenfig from crossing their line.

Final score... Kenfig Hill 10, Cowbridge 10.

Good luck to the team for their Blues Cup final on Sunday, May 17 at The Arms Park. GJ

Farmers head to Llanishen!



Sponsor Brian Lakin presents winner Clive Thomas with the Sigma3 trophy. Also in photograph Geoff Hinchley, Trevor Wooding and society captain Brian Jones.

LLANISHEN Golf Club, Cardiff nestling in the shadow of Caerphilly mountain with its stunning views across the Bristol Channel over to the Somerset coast proved an ideal venue for the recently held monthly meeting of the Glamorgan Farmers' Golf Society.

A near record attendance of 43 competitors were also keen to extend a very warm welcome to new sponsors Sigma3 Kitchens and Bedrooms, whose chairman and well-respected Vale resident Mr Brian Lakin started this family business in 1975.

With many quality prizes supplied by the days sponsor waiting to be won it was not surprising that only two points separated the top four finishers with the overall winner Clive



An injured David Williams talking to runner up in the guest section Alan Husband.

Thomas coming from the back of the field to take first prize with 34 stableford points.

Missing a short putt on the final green proved costly for runner up Trevor Wooding who also finished with 34 points but lost out with an inferior back nine; Gareth Perkins with 32 points finished third and Ray Howells also with 32 points finished fourth.

In the guest section Geoff Hinchley and Alan Husband had the benefit

initiative, Tennis Tuesdays, which is fun, social tennis just for ladies, every Tuesday 7-8pm and with places limited, pre-booking is advised.

Forthcoming events also include the Quorn Family Tennis Cup on Friday, May 8, where you can get on court with your child (10 and under) to play doubles against other families on a mini tennis court, for family pride and prizes, as well as a series of Great British Tennis Weekends over the summer, in conjunction with national tennis events providing free opportunities to grab a racket and get on court to have some fun.

For more information about the club, check out their website www.barryctc.co.uk or their Facebook and Twitter pages, email info@barryctc.co.uk or call 07816 311263.

The club will also provide the LTA's newest

TMCC

It's 'walk rate' rather than 'work rate' as football veterans visit

AS the second match of their UK tour, the Victoria Legends from Vancouver, British Columbia, are taking on local team Penarth Wanderers Veterans FC on May 13, kick-off 6pm at Sully Sports and Leisure Club.

The Legends squad is made up from players who regularly turn out in matches arranged in the South Vancouver Island Classic Soccer Association.

The game was arranged when the Wanderers website was found and the Legends ex-pat players wanted a game in Wales.

"Teams from the SVICSA play in tournaments or tour in the US, Hawaii, Japan, Cuba, Mexico, Costa Rica and Europe. However, they find it strange that when touring Europe or the UK, the home of football, they have to play teams of younger players because older ones have hung up their boots, finding the introduction of 'walking football' in the UK amusing," said organiser

ALAN ROBINSON

Barry and District Ladies Skittle League results

LATEST results for the Barry and District Ladies Skittle League for week commencing April 13 are as follows:

First division: Colcot Ladies (S Rees, A Singleton, K Taylor 25) 290, Allsorts (C Romain 28) 255; Red Admiral (G Williams 28) 242, Coppers (S Davies 31) 283; Space Finders (J Snooks 36) 251, SV Gals (P Vycroft, C Lewis 30) 307; Cigar Ladies (Aimee McCarthy 33) 325, Barry Stars (V Jones 32) 266; Bakers Dozen (M Western 27) 247, Castaways (J Martin 25) 251; Family and Friends (J Kirby 26) 235, Pilas Palas (S Bennett 22) 224; Family Affair (S John 25) 251, Special Angels (A Connell 29) 260.

Second division: Vixens (D Marks, M Marks 29) 251, Strikers (J Mills 29) 270; Bobby's Girls (S Nelslon 29) 271, Roller Coasters (J Marriot 27) 213; Castle Bandits (M Strenren, J Grant 25) 252, Witchill Widows (S Hurn 32) 269; Cad Con Fillies (A Beatty 23) 228, Divas (K Eye 28) 229; Breakaways (N Martin 36) 307, After Eights (I Havornd 30) 293; Rhoose Starlights (G Drake 30) 267, SV Lights (P Forrester 30) 223.

Third division: Ruby Triers (N Williams, K Davenport 23) 225, Rhoose Ravers (A Robinson, C Bagnall 23) 236; SV Ladies (W Norman, N Batt 27) 276, Jolly Dollies (G Lewis, Wright 31) 310; Lil's Devils (t Evans 25) 226, Airways Angels (L Donovan 24) 240; Etcetera (S Dyke 29) 264, Westenders (M Davies 28) 245; Merry Makers (C Edwards 25) 250, Hill Billies (S Moorcroft 25) 193; Friends and Neighbours (E Weston 26) 224, Dolly Mixtures (L Marsh 30) 266; Persuaders (K Kemp, S Hughes, K Scott, M Romero 20) 215, Witchill Wanderers (C Morrissey 26) 261.

Fourth division: Challengers (J Dimond 32) 256, Twilights (S Ellis 25) 219; Wyndham Witches (V Walters 26) 252, Rebels (J Farr 29) 243; Boozy Birds (A Lloyd 28) 252, Off The Rails (L McCormack 28) 208; Fallen Angels (T Lawrence 30) 286, Railway Rogues (S Sjodin 22) 170.

Fifth division:

Aristocrats (M Moore 27)

214, Hell Raisers (C Waters 25) 210; Billy Bunters (G Loveless, H James 24) 225, Optimists (E Playle, J Holland 23) 188.

Local team visit CCS



RHOOSE Athletic Year 6 football team were recently treated to a day at the CCS as Cardiff City took on Bolton Wanderers.

The tickets were gifted to the team courtesy of Cardiff City FC Community & Education Foundation.

Although the result was not as we hoped the lads had a great time and took in some valuable tips in preparation for their first competitive season.

PH

Friendly win for Cadoxton bowlers

CADOXTON V CAERAU ATHLETIC season started with a midweek friendly at Windsor, Penarth.

Paul Swannick captained his first match, with a win on a closely matched rink. A '4' for the visitors brought the scores level on the fifth end, but the home side

were added with 6 against during the closing ends.

Gordon Davies skipped a rink against Mikey Brain, one of their star juniors, and confessed they were much too good for them. The visitors took a 11-0

lead after three ends, this was reduced by four during the next three, but the remainder of the scoring mainly went against.

Roy Harding had Alex Brain in opposition and didn't get much joy, scoring just six singles in their defeat.

Hopefully a stronger side can be selected for future games, when more members become available.

Scores: E Heppenstall, I Heppenstall, D Hammond, G Davies 9-30; G Powell, P Swannick, P Ellis, R Harding 6-31%; R Cole,

R Byrne, D Tuck, H Craven 16-23; J Stacey, I Robertson, D Brook, D Kuhnell 21 - 13½. Final

ATOMS REACH SEMI-FINAL

BARRY Atoms recently took part in a tournament in Abergavenny.

First up was a touring Scottish side, who looked quite capable with good technique and lots of pace. Barry started off very pacey themselves and scored after several phases, the ball ending up in Harry's hands.

In a man of the match performance Jack R scored the second for a 2-0 win.

Next up was the home side Abergavenny; they had some big lads who weren't afraid to mix it about, but then again so do we.

Scoring a powerful try through Anton and another by Jack R meant we won this game 2-1.

The game against Monmouth was going to be a real tight affair, with both sides unbeaten and vying for top spot.

Grit, determination and battling spirit got us through this game as Jack R scored the only try for a 1-0 win.

Looking like a future captain, Jack L was organising plays and right the way through out the side boys were stepping up.

In the semi-final we faced Caerleon, but we didn't play with the same intensity, and lost 2-0.

Squad: Jamie, Kaiden, Fin, Anton, Iestyn, Adam, Connor, Rhys, Daf, Jack L, Jack R, Taylor, Zak, Couchy, Ben, Ethan, Cai, Harry.

DD

Charlotte Breeze-s past the rest!

THE biggest cheers at the Tredegar Farmers Hunt Point-To-Point Steeplechases at misty and drizzly Lower Machen were for dedicated hunt-racing enthusiast Charlotte Breeze, whose eight-year-old bay gelding CastleGrace ran out an easy, 10 lengths winner of the open maiden race.

CastleGrace, which Charlotte bought at the Ascot Sales last year, was ridden by former national champion James Tudor who was chalking up his 250th winner between-the-flags (he's also ridden 34 winners under rules). James, who hails from the Vale, needs 20 more wins to equal the Welsh record of 270 wins set by another rider from the Vale, the legendary John Llewellyn, who was a steward at the meeting.

James said: "This was a steering job really and a lot of the credit must go to trainer Michelle Harris." Another rider from the Vale who had plenty to smile about was Cowbridge's Byron Moorcroft, aged 26, who notched-up his first ever double when winning the confined race on 20-1 outsider Rainbow Haze and the young horse maiden on Moontripper, both trained in the Vale by Kathryn Dando.

The homebred Rainbow Haze, jointly owned by Michael Armitage and Kathryn's husband Phillip, handily placed throughout, won by four lengths from Mr Sawyer (James Tudor) and his rider said: "He jumped really well."

Moontripper, a six-year-old bay mare owned by Vale estate agent Anthony Brown, and who has been described as "a bit of a handful" held on by three parts of a length, after leading three fences from the finish from the favourite Captain Camelot (Nick Williams).

Rain stops play at Millwood

LAST Wednesday, Millwood played a friendly away to Barry Plastics; unfortunately no scorecards were handed in, but all enjoyed the trip and the game.

Saturday should have been an inter-club team friendly, but the inclement weather made sure that not a bowl was delivered. All members were quite disappointed about not playing, at least everyone

Racing got underway with a three-horse members' race and the favourite Ski Sunday, who is blind in one eye, finished alone after outsider of three Qulitime unseated her rider, Ms George, who was having her first ride in a point-to-point, at the third fence and then James Tudor departing from Heavenstown at the 11th fence.

Ski Sunday was ridden by 22-year-old Darrach Skelly from Limerick in Ireland who rides out for Vale National Hunt trainer and former national champion point-to-point rider Evan Williams.

The Subaru Restricted Open race went to the Croome & West Warwicks invader Annamult the 7-4 favourite which made nearly all the running to win by two lengths from Andrew Leyshon's Distant Sound (Evan David) which had made a bold effort three fences from the finish.

Annamult, owned by Alan Phillips, was partnered by Aly Stirling, aged 26, from Cirencester. Zara Phillips saw her Frankenstorm (Tom David), who showed some early pace, finish last of the five runners.

Only three horses faced the starter for the men's open race and although the favourite Divine Intervention made every post a winning one under Mark Wall, Patrickomboru and Evan David tried hard to narrow the gap on the second circuit and despite making a mistake at the penultimate fence was only beaten by a short head. "He always gives his best," said Mark on dismounting from the 11-year-old bay gelding who is owned by Henry Wilson and trained by Francesca Moller and qualified with the Heythrop Hunt.

As for the unlucky Patrickom Boru, he will be going into training with Evan Williams to race under rules.

Keith Pritchard's Watch The Birdie, who had chipped a bone in her near hind leg which had got

into a ligament last October, was back to her brilliant best when winning the ladies' open race by a length from the favourite Cygnet, who had been held up by Jodie Hughes.

Watch The Birdie, who also won the best turned out award, was ridden by Hannah Lewis who said: "She's very excitable but she was a different horse today and that was fantastic." Wales' most loved point-to-pointer, Chesnut Annie, who had recently won her 40th race, trailed home in fifth place.

Watch The Birdie was the second leg of a double for Bridgend's Gareth Moore, who had also saddled Ski Sunday, winner of the members' race.

JAMES MAKES IT 251

Twenty-four hours after chalking-up his 250th winner at the Tredegar Farmers Hunt Point-To-Point Steeplechases, James Tudor, aged 31, made it win number 251 when winning the restricted race on High Hatton at the Radnor & West Herefordshire meeting.

High Hatton is owned by Cowbridge's Jeff Bird and trained at Merthyr Mawr by Jonathan Tudor.

At the Banwen & Vale of Clettow fixture on May Day Monday, Ogmore-by-Sea's Nick Williams won the first race to be held over the new racecourse and described the track as being 'beautiful'.

Riding the ex-Rebecca Curtis trained National Hunt performer BoyFromNowhere, the odds-on favourite, he came home 20 lengths ahead of Mumbles Pier ridden by Richard Patrick and trained by Jonathan Tudor. BoyFromNowhere is owned by Alan Rhead and trained at Bridgend by Gary Moore. However, the day's riding honours went to John Mathias who won on his six mounts, a feat he achieved in 2011. He is the only British rider to have partnered six winners at a single meeting.

The ladies' open race was won by Highly Unlikely, who was ridden by Tenby's Charlotte Evans.

Connor Brace, aged 13, won the 138 cm open pony race over seven furlongs on his 12-year-old bay mare Molly, but in a close finish to the 148 cm pony race his Dont Tell Dai was beaten by Gollum, ridden by 15-year-old Isabel Hunt.

BRIAN LEE

'Terry Nolan Day' at Murch Bowling Club

CELEBRATING its 25th anniversary this year, the Murch Bowling Club opened the current outdoor season on Saturday, April 18, designated 'Terry Nolan Day' in memory of one of the founder members who established the club in 1990, and who contributed greatly to its development in the subsequent years.

Players then chose their places around the green to bowl for the customary bottle of whisky, which was won by Terry Phillips, the men's vice captain.

The mixed rinks enjoyed an afternoon's bowling with the wining rink of Ron Crouch, John Evans, Judy Fudge and Tony Rice receiving the Terry Nolan Trophy.

Players and spectators alike adjourned to the clubhouse for the customary buffet and evening celebrations.

Barry Athletic celebrate their anniversary

THIS summer, Barry Athletic FC celebrate their 40th anniversary.

The club are holding a disco with buffet for players, officials and supporters both past and present at the Masonic Hall in Barry on Saturday July 4.

Tickets for the event need to be purchased in advance and are priced at £10; please contact Steve Heathfield on 07795 560476 or Adey Heathfield on 07886 074230. The club can also be contacted on bafc75@gmail.com.

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Wolves go on tour to Minehead!

THE young lads from Dinas Powys Wolves recently attended the UK's biggest youth football festival in Minehead Butlins.

Playing teams from England and France, the experience was something the boys will not forget.

In the opening match, the villagers played local side Hanham Athletic and set about the English team with the sort of football we have seen all year from the boys, winning 8-0.

Their next match was against the bigger French champions, As Champs Sur Marne. Dinas started

the brighter and were camped in the French half for long periods but struggled to score against the bigger lads. A few decisions didn't go their way as the French team got the winner, scoring from a free kick.

Dinas now had two matches remaining on the opening day so it was time to dust themselves down and get back to playing football.

They certainly did this, winning both games, 5-1 against Bridgewater Wolves and 4-0 against Trinian Tornadoes. It was a great opening day with the boys playing the right way. What then followed was a night of madness

and laughs.

After a late night of partying, Dinas faced four tough matches on day two.

First up were

Workingham &

Bracknell FC, and this match went to the wire.

Dinas peppered their goal but some fine saves

and last ditch defending kept the score 0-0 with minutes left.

However, this young

team know that you keep

passing and moving,

chances will come and

two fine late goals

wrapped up the match to

make it 2-0 to Dinas.

Now it was the derby match against AFC Rumney Juniors and this was certainly the best

performance the Dinas

boys put in all weekend. The movement and one touch football was first class as they ran out 5-0 winners.

This set up a 'winner

takes all' match against

Chester Academy

School. After a setback,

conceding a goal from a

free kick in the opening

minute, Dinas were again

camped in the English

team's half but failed to

convert their chances as

the woodwork and keeper

denied them. Chester

then ran out 2-0 winners

as their lively

striker put the game to bed.

In the final match, Dinas played north London team Enfield Town, and what took place typified all that's good about these lads.

Enfield had been struggling with numbers through sickness and injuries so Dinas dropped their numbers to play.

It was a great match played in the true sporting spirit. At one point, a number of the Dinas players turned their shirts inside out and played for Enfield. The final score was 8-1 to Benson.

It was a great weekend as the boys certainly put the Vale on the map with the football they played and the striking pink kit they wore. A big thanks to all the players and parents for making this a great few days.

DINAS WOLVES 10

- DINAS LIONS 4

This certainly wasn't a

classic performance by the Wolves as a long weekend of football looked as if it had taken its toll on the young lads.

Wolves took an early lead with goals from Harewood, Saunders and Hewitson, but struggled to get their passing game going as too many players were too happy to take everyone on. Further goals from Hewitson, Harewood, Booker and Quest increased their lead.

Wolves ran out comfortable winners with more goals from Hareward, Saunders and Pierra while Lions hit back with a couple of fine strikes from H Benson. LS

The cup was presented by his family

Latest news from Barrivale

THE latest results from Barrivale Bridge Club for April 21 are as follows:

First, Mike Close and Mick Green, 61.98 per cent; second, Denis Mottram and Jenny Vaughan, 60.42; third, Sean and Ann Macdougall, 53.65. Hilary Laurence and Vivien Liles won on handicap.

Results for April 28:

First Irene Thomas and Jenny Vaughan 76.19 per cent; second Peter Millar and Denis Mottram 56.35; third Celia and Huw Thomas 54.86. Irene Thomas and Jenny Vaughan also won on handicap.

New members are always welcome at Barrivale. A partner may be arranged if required. If you would like to join, call 01446 418380 or 01446 733425 or call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry, on Tuesdays at 7pm. Alternatively, beginners or improvers/new starters would be welcome on a Friday at 9.45am at the above address.

DR

The competition was fast and furious and gave some of the newer and younger Barry members their first chance to swim in a gala.

The gallery was full of parents and supporters from all the clubs and the poolside area was also a very busy area with the swimmers, coaches and officials milling around.

If your family enjoys swimming and would like to join our swimming club, do make your way down to the Barry Leisure Centre after 7pm on Mondays or Fridays - please contact Huwel Cooper on 01446 733784 if you'd like more information. SB

Atoms' tournament win

BARRY Atoms went into the Llantwit Major tournament in fine spirit and with a good attitude.

They took a squad of 20, and a player who came to support with a broken arm!

The following scores are all in tries, as there were no conversions.

Tonyrefail 0 Barry Atoms 1

This was very tight affair against strong and purposeful opposition who showed good rugby flair. The try was scored by Rory.

Llandaff North 0 Barry Atoms 2

We played a determined side, not wanting to give up the ball, but they were no match for an Atoms side that were positive in the backs and powerful up front. Great team play resulted in tries by Jack Reid and Daf.

Rhydyfelin 0 Barry Atoms 4

This was possibly the least

challenging test for the boys. We bossed it and ran out easy winners through phase play well worked right through the ranks, leading to tries by Jack Reid (two), Rory and Fin.

Llantwit Major 2 Barry Atoms 3

This game proved to be the toughest test, and there was no surprise, as they are local rivals. Tries by Jack Reid and Rory made sure this tight affair went to the Atoms, and meant they would be in the cup final, having only conceded two tries all day.

Final - Tonyrefail 1 Barry Atoms 5

The Atoms were by far the best team here as three tries by Jack Reid, with tries apiece from Rory and Jack Norman, ensured victory.

Team: Owen, Jack R, Adam, Jac N, Jack L, Harry, Couchy, Iestyn, Rory, Mason, Ben, Cai, Ethan, Taylor, Rhys, Daf, Fin, Jamie, Anton, Connor; cheerleader with broken arm Eski.

DD

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Brian Lee's point-to-point recollections - 1983

THIS was the year, as our racing correspondent BRIAN LEE'S press clippings scrap book reveals, that Cowbridge's own John Llewellyn made hunt-racing history by becoming the first Welshman to win the national point-to-point riders' championship outright.

The 1983 Welsh season got under way with the Banwen Miners fixture at Erw Lon, Pencader, and the ladies open race was won by the legendary Sue Aston who riding Million Dollar Man, a horse which had run in the Epsom Derby six years earlier, finished a length ahead of Derrick Llewellyn's prolific National Clover.

Paul Hamer, of Bridgend, landed a first and last race double. He took the members' race on Anascend and division two of the maiden on Flashtoun. St Athan farmer John Thomas partnered his grandfather's 12-year-old Cottage Chest to a five lengths victory over the favourite Flap in the adjacent hunts race.

The men's open went to the odds-on favourite Brigadier Mouse ridden by Barry Thomas.

The reigning Welsh champion rider Cowbridge's John Llewellyn 'looked to have the

point-to-point owners association club race well and truly won when going to the last fence clear on Promoter, but took a tumble which left the way clear for the favourite Ashburton and David Stephens.'

However, a week or so later, my report on the Brecon Hunt Steeplechases was headlined 'Llewellyn Llands A Double' and read: 'Cowbridge farmer John Llewellyn landed a double at the Brecon Hunt Steeplechases.'

He took Gemmerley Jane to a two-length win over ex-hurdler If And When in the second division of the men's open, and partnered Matey to an eight length victory over Dance Master in division three of the restricted open event.

In the ladies' open, odds-on favourite National Clover had four lengths to spare over the pacemaking Little Trouble. Brecon's Brian Eckley won the maiden on Loch Raven and the members' race on Glynn Valley.

At the Llelligaer Farmers, Herbert Gibbon's Quiz Master set a record when winning the members' race for the fifth time.

Twelve-year-old Quiz Master, who had missed the previous year's race owing to injury, was ridden by Tim Rooney.

John Llewellyn was in fine form at the Pembrokeshire Hunt Steeplechases where he won the first three races. He took the members' race on Matey, the open on Gemmerley Jane and the restricted on Garrigill.

Merthyr Mawr's Jonathan Tudor won the maiden on Bright Hope, while at the Llangibby, Joan Stephens, of Penhow near Chepstow, won the RMC Group Ladies Open race on Casha which won by 25 lengths from Drumman.

At the Monmouthshire, I reported that 'Violet Higgs' Magic Rock fell twice during the members' race and still emerged the winner. Magic Rock, ridden by farrier Andrew James, was heading Kanda Fair, ridden by Andrew's apprentice Rodway Heathfield, when it fell at the 10th fence leaving Kanda Fair with a clear lead.

Quickly remounting, Andrew chased after Kanda Fair, and was closing the gap only to fall again at the 14th fence. Not to be outshone by his apprentice, Andrew got back in the saddle again and rode with such gusto that by the time Kanda Fair had reached the last fence he was alongside him and, sprinting away on the run-in, Magic Rock scored by eight lengths.'

These days, riders are not allowed to remount their horses once they have fallen in a race. Bridgend's Gary Perkins had a comfortable win on Chevalgo in the maiden race at the Talybont

where Abergavenny's Mark Richards rode a double on Andyrama in men's open and Ballybuck in the restricted. At the South Pembrokeshire Philip Mathias rode a treble with Celtic Hill, Zarzalitine and Flap and his older brother Richard won on Ferrier.

There were 233 entries for the Glamorgan Hunt Point-To-Point at St Hilary and under the heading 'Llewellyn Treble' I revealed: 'One of the oldest point-to-pointers in training - Rose Harry's 17 year-old Fitz - won the members' race.'

Fitz, known as 'The Grand Old Man of Welsh Hunt Racing', was the first leg of a treble for John Llewellyn, who is putting in a strong bid for the national men's point-to-pointers' championship.

Llewellyn also won the Open on Master Straight and the first division of the Maiden on Ashercan.'

At the Tredegar Farmers, where John Thomas won the restricted on 25-1 chance Gerrard's Cross, Crosstown, a 12 year-old chestnut gelding owned by Barry farmer Ted Williams landed the open race.

Ridden by Bassaleg's Tim Rooney, Crosstown took up the running approaching the second last fence and scored by four lengths from Scriven Girl.'

My report for the Pentrych that year read: 'Shock Win By Shan-At 33-1' and I went on to say: 'Rhondda farmer's daughter Shan Morgan the Welsh women's point-to-point champion, rode her father's Ivor Hael to a shock 33-1 victory.'

She beat Last Score ridden by John Llewellyn in the restricted open event. Llewellyn, however, landed a double with Brock and Mr Moneybags. Mr Moneybags put up a fine performance for a five-year-old when winning the Welsh Point-to-Point Grand National Open race in a time of 8mins, 21secs for the four miles course.'

Poor old Fitz had led over the last only to get caught on the run-in by Mr Moneybags to whom he was giving 14lbs.

Under the heading 'Cheers Bring Shame' I reported: 'In all the years I have been following point-to-point racing I have never known anyone to delight in the fall of a horse.'

But last Tuesday at The Ystrad during the ladies' open race it happened. Some sections of the crowd cheered when Derrick Llewellyn's National Clover, who was leading Norman Jones' Drumman by about 15 lengths, fell at the last fence.

One can only assume that these 'hunt-racing enthusiasts' had backed Drumman and were cheering through their pockets. All right, so the fences are there to be jumped and one would not wish to take anything away from Drumman, who

incidentally had run in the Ladies' Point-To-Point Championship at Chepstow Racecourse the previous day.

But National Clover's owner, Mr Llewellyn, who has helped to put Welsh point-to-pointing on the map as a rider and an owner must have been hurt by the crowd's bad behaviour - not to mention the feelings of the rider, young Mandy Lingard.

National Clover, with seven wins behind her this season, needed that win to put her in the running for the Grand Marnier Championship as two horses share the lead with eight wins. Thankfully National Clover appeared all right after her fall.

Not so lucky was Gerrards Cross who had to be put down after falling in the earlier Adjacent Hunts event. Nothing to cheer about there, that's for sure.'

It was at this meeting that John Llewellyn took the restricted race on Western Princess and Paul Hamer rode a double on Red Vein in the members' and Yellow Jersey in the adjacent. However, Yellow Jersey was months later disqualified by the Jockey Club and his owner Geoffrey Hamer told me at the time: "Yellow Jersey lost the race because he was not in compliance with the general conditions of the race."

And finally, under the heading 'Llewellyn Brings Trophy To Wales' I wrote: 'Cowbridge farmer John Llewellyn made point-to-point history on Saturday by becoming the first Welshman to win the Daily Telegraph Trophy, which goes to the leading rider.'

Llewellyn, 37 next month, brought his total of wins to 19 when landing the first division of the men's open race on 14-1 outsider East of Eden at the Torrington Farmers fixture which ended the season. And one of the first to congratulate on his success was reigning champion Peter Greenall (Incidentally, he's now a Lord) who, in the second division, partnered Cheekio Ora to a win over Llewellyn's mount Master Straight.'

Llewellyn's total of 19 wins in a season bettered Tim Rooney's Welsh record of 16 which had been set in 1981.

*Please e-mail your point-to-point stories and pictures to brianlee4@virginmedia.com or phone me on 02920736438.

BRIAN LEE

Dinas Powys GC ladies' results

ON April 7, an 18 Hole Jubilee 3s was held:

1st Maxine Hird, Sian Smith & Audrey Harwood 77pts, 2nd Louise Wilding, Ann Mahenthiralingam & Sue Bridle 72pts, 3rd Lisa Ryley, Angela Brown & Annie Blackburn 70pts.

On April 7, a nine hole stableford was held: 1st Angela Thomas 15pts, 2nd Terry Unwin 14pts.

On April 14, an 18 hole Australian Spoons: 1st Louise Wilding & Pat Gosling 30pts, 2nd Angela Brown & Audrey Harwood 33pts, 3rd Sue Bridle & Annie Blackburn 30pts on back nine from Maxine Hird & Ruth Yates 30pts.

On April 14 a nine hole stableford: 1st Angela Thomas, 2nd Kit Roblin, 3rd Terry Unwin.

On April 21, an 18 hole Medal Challenge 16pts.

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PARKRUN COMES TO BARRY



Everybody's on the run at Barry Island!

MAY Day bank holiday weekend saw 197 people completing the inaugural Barry Island parkrun 5k race.

Starting at 9am every Saturday from the Eastern shelter on the promenade, parkrun is a free, timed, 5k (3.1 miles) run, using a traffic free course that is suitable for all.

Andrew Frayling and his team

have worked tirelessly over the last four months to bring this exciting new event to fruition and were justly rewarded with an exceptional first event that exceeded all expectations.

The course starts in front of the new beach huts by the eastern shelter before heading west along the prom towards Marco's before doubling back on itself rising up through the gardens.

It continues across the upper path on the headland toward the coastguard station before the fun section. Runners then re-trace the route back towards the start for the completion of the first of two laps.

To find out more about the Barry event, including latest news, course map, results and photos, visit:

www.parkrun.org.uk/barryisland.

Bridge results

RESULTS of the Vale of Glamorgan Bridge Club for April 27:

1st Irene Thomas & Graham Jones 69.16%, 2nd Marjorie Morris & Wendy Williams 56.49%, 3rd Tony Disley & John Evans 56.25%.

Results for May 4:

1st Liam Sheridan & John Beard 67.05%, 2nd Barrie Waite & Graham Norris 59.72%, 3rd John Evans & Steve Burgoine 57.58%.

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Pencoed land the league title after emphatic win



WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS!



Captain Keiron Moore picks up the league title.
PICTURES BY JULIE HANCOCK

P E N C O E D clinched the Division 2 West Central Championship with this win over Pontycymmer at the Cabbage Patch, in the process taking their season try tally to 146 in their 22 league matches.

The home side opened the scoring early in the match, going through several phases before outside half Marc Davies caught the visitors' defence flat with a well-weighted kick for right wing Liam Halse to latch onto before racing over; Davies converted.

Pencoed soon increased their lead, a show and go from young scrum half Rhys Clarke took him over at the posts from 22 metres; Davies adding the extras.

Back row forward Rhys Pope was next on the scoresheet, capitalizing on a somewhat fortuitous bounce to race away from 30 metres; Davies converted. The home pack were responsible for the bonus point try, as sustained driving play saw industrious second row Ricky Somers apply the finish.

Approaching the interval good handling

It's Swalec Cup success for Bridgend RFC!

B R I D G E N D produced a superb, hard-working performance, in beating favourites, Pontypridd, to win the 2015 SSE Swalec Cup, the first time for 25 years.

Leading up to the game, there was only to be one winner as Pontypridd had monopolised the league. Even accounting for the slip up against Bridgend earlier in the season, the league tables showed Ponty well on top, looking down at neighbouring club Bridgend, not too far from bottom place.

As you walked into the Millennium Stadium, the black and white army of Ponty supporters greeted you with 'Ponty, Ponty, Ponty!', confirming their confidence, as the leading club at the Welsh Premiership level.

The Ponty contingent, many in fancy dress, was full of smiling faces as they appeared confident on what appeared to be another occasion for more silverware.

How wrong they were! Bridgend seemed the only team in the game for the first quarter, with Bridgend players focused on proving the critics wrong.

Throughout the game, Pontypridd showed their forward strength but the wholehearted Bridgend tackling did not allow them to put too many movements together.

The first half was close but the second half was even more exciting as Bridgend were determined not to let their lead slip. The final result of 19-15 in Bridgend's favour was greeted by 'Bridge, Bridge, Bridge' with the

normally vociferous Ponty supporters looking very sheepishly, but, at the same time, applauding a very committed Bridgend performance.

In fact, a neutral supporter would have found it difficult to judge which team were at the top of the Premiership. With one thought on the bigger picture of Welsh rugby, namely the Welsh regions, which players would not have looked out of place on the regional stage?

Certainly full back, Owen Howe, who gave a 100 per cent kicking performance that even Leigh Halfpenny would have been proud of.

Other players that excelled were outside half James Dixon who controlled the game well throughout the game and also tackled as if his life depended on it.

Tom O'Flaherty,

Bridgend's speedy winger, looked very dangerous each time he got the ball and man of the match, Andrew Waite, deserved his award for his all-round commitment in a pack row consisting of former Bridgend District Schools under-11s players the O'Driscoll brothers from Heol y Cyw, with former Llangwydd pupil Waite another successful Bridgend Schools district player. Let's hope the regional spies were in the crowd.

Bridgend's try was scored by Tom O'Flaherty, with 14 points by Owen Howe (four penalties and one conversion) with tries by Aled Summerhill and Jake Thomas for Pontypridd, and a penalty by Simon Humberstone.

REPORT BY MARTIN GRIFFITHS

David lands a hole-in-one

A Porthcawl golfer will have no excuse for missing his next tee-time after winning a limited-edition BOSS watch for achieving a hole-in-one.

David Richards, 60, scored his ace on the 175-yard, par-three fourth at Pyle & Kenfig GC, and the 13-handicapper was rewarded with membership of the exclusive BOSS Watches H1Club and a specially-commissioned, commemorative timepiece.

He said: "I was playing with a three-ball and the hole had a strong headwind. I chose my five-wood, struck it well

and knew it was on the green; the ball kicked right, hit the pin and dropped into the hole."

The luxury German brand has once again pledged to reward club golfers with an exclusive watch for every hole-in-one recorded during a club competition in 2015, after giving away more than £1m-worth of limited-edition timepieces since its launch in 2013 - and Richards is among the latest to achieve the feat this year.

In addition to the limited-edition watch, Richards joins more than 7,000 members in the BOSS Watches H1Club which offers access to exclusive benefits and merchandise.

Athletic cap off their season with fine victory



Robert Evans breaks through for Bridgend Athletic.
PICTURE BY GLENNSPORTS

B R I D G E N D Athletic completed their season's campaign with a bonus point 33-9 victory over Narbeth.

This dominance up front allowed the crowd to see some excellent running from the Athletic backs. They scored a try with that was good in back play to the pleasure of back coaches Stuart Morris and John Apsee.

Centres Chris Price and youth player Shaun Wilcox drew their opponents on the halfway line and offloaded with perfect timing.

Full back Dan Howells made the extra man injecting pace into the move before again timing his pass to allow speedy wing Lyndsey MacCausland a 30 metre clear run to the try line. Robert Evans converted to stretch the lead to 18-9.

They nearly repeated the feat a few minutes later when flanker Ben Howe joined a similar move and broke into the Otter's 22, but the final pass failed to go to hand.

The Athletic rounded off the half with a penalty from Robert Evans following the Narbeth flanker receiving a yellow card for a high tackle in halting another Athletic attack.

The second period started with the Athletic again on top. From a ruck

inside the Otter's 22, scrum half Jake Williams picked up and wrong footed the defence dummying to pass before breaking clean through their much heavier opponents a torrid time.

Locks Tom Penry-Ellis and Lloyd Griffiths were prominent in a field position for the next try with an astute kick through. Wing Sean Williams, Griff Davies and the tigerish bottle-sized battleship of open side flanker Ben

Howe covered every blade of grass to powerfully at a great angle to cross in the corner for the final score of the game and the Athletic's 10th bonus point of the season.

The final 15 minutes saw Narbeth come back into the game but the Athletic, with fresh legs in Darren Deguerra, Matthew Bennett and Aled Thomas now on the field, never looked in danger of allowing their opponents to cross the whitewash.

This was a fitting end to a campaign that saw the Athletic's fortunes completely change around after Christmas. Up to then they had played 12 and only won four with 18 league points. Afterwards they played 16, won 12 and only lost four games, gaining a further 47 league points to finish in eighth place.

It is hoped this relatively young team stay together and look for at least a top six finish next season. If they had played all season like the second half of the season they would have finished third. They beat every side in the league at least once with the exceptions of the top two, Bargoed and Swansea, who they also pushed hard.

The club would like to thank retiring forwards coach David Williams for 23 years of devoted and invaluable service following an illustrious coaching and playing career with the Athletic.

The other forwards coach, Ian Greenslade, will remain along with John Apsee and Stuart Morris and team manager Paul Hearn.

Thanks to the Athletic Old Boys and Friends of Bridgend Athletic for sponsoring the fixture and to the Bridgend Ravens for use of their pitch and facilities.

AB